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# Air Safety Flies Into a Touchy Debate on 'Culture'

By Don Phillips

WASHINGTON - The crew of Korean Air Flight 801 grew nervous as the Boeing 747 aporoached Agana, Guam, on a rainy night last August. Something did not feel right.

The plane, being flown by autopilot, was descending steeply. The crew talked about the altitude, and someone said several times that the airport was 'not in sight." But investigative sources said neither the co-pilot nor the flight engineer spoke out boldly. as trained, to alert the captain or even to urge breaking off the landing.

Alarms suddenly sounded in the cockpit. After an excruciating pause of several seconds, the captain finally cut off the autopilot and prepared to pull up. At almost that moment, the crew of another plane perhaps 50 miles away saw the clouds ahead glow bright red.

The red glow was the Korean Air jet slamming into the top of Nimitz Hill, killing 228 of the 254 people on board. The moments of hesitation may have made the difference because the jumbo jet would have cleared the hill if it had been just a few feet higher.

The question haunting investigators is why the copilot and the flight engineer failed to challenge the captain. Specifically, some investigators are wondering whether cultural factors - in this case, a traditional Korean deference to command authority may have played a role in the crash.

Others experts counter that cultural factors play only a minor role in air safety, and some fear that even raising the issue may smack of racism. The question of why nobody in the cockpit spoke up forcefully is crucial because this kind of crash - in which a perfectly good plane flies into the ground happens with alarming frequency worldwide. Such disasters account for as many as 8 out of every 10

crashes and more than 9,000 deaths on commercial flights in the jet age.

The issue is so controversial that the word "culture" may never be uttered in three days of National Transportation Safety Board hearings that begin next week in Honolulu, an investigator said. But many of the questions will touch on whether the crew trusted too much in automation and whether the co-pilot and the flight engineer deferred too much to the captain in the Aug. 6 crash.

A transcript of the plane's cockpit voice recorder, now a closely held secret, will reveal more about the last moments in the cockpit when it is released next Tuesday, the first day of the hearings. But American and Korean sources confirmed that it will most likely reveal a lost, confused crew that apparently did not follow its training.

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# Foreign Minister Picked in China; **Pragmatists Get Economic Posts**

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BELIING - Chinese legislators approved a cabinet Wednesday that includes a new foreign minister and places several pragmatic allies of the new prime

minister, Zhu Rongji, in key economic posts.
"This is a real vote of confidence from the deputies," a European diplomat said. "It gives Mr. Zhu a free hand to press ahead with painful but vital reforms to the state sector.

Taking over the foreign affairs portfolio is Tang Jiaxuan, most recently a deputy foreign minister, who missing is an expert on Japan and Asian affairs and speaks both 📏 🖟 Japanese and English. He is said to enjoy the patronage of the president and Communist Party head, Jiang

Mr. Zhu named a corporate chief to lead a new ார் மாக்கள் economics superministry, sending a signal to ailing state-owned companies that they must prosper or perish. The head of the new State Economic and Trade Variable Decision in the new State Economic and Trade Variable Commission will be Sheng Huaren, 63, who has been some state general manager of China National Petrochemical Hardward Corp., the country's biggest oil concern, since the manager of the country's biggest oil concern, since the manager of the country's biggest oil concern, since the manager of the country's biggest oil concern, since the manager of the country's biggest oil concern, since the manager of the country's biggest oil concern, since the manager of the country's biggest oil concern, since the manager of the country's biggest oil concern, since the manager of the country's biggest oil concern, since the concern of the concer

technocrats signals an administration less riven by factional struggles. It also marks China's further passage from the era of rule by revolutionaries whose uncompromising politics were forged in battle and the

"To have gotten so high, they have to be red, but they are professional, too, said Xiang Jianping, a

they are professional, too, said Xiang Jianping, a street in 1 ft delegate from Zhejiang Province. "Many were deputy ministers," he said.

1 included in the popular Qian Qichen, 69, who has served for 10 to say them the popular Qian Qichen, 69, who has served for 10 to say them they rears. He is creditted with reviving China's intersor the new mational image in the years since the 1989 crackdown on students in Tiananmen Square and engineering the appearance growing diplomatic isolation of Taiwan, which China

See CHINA, Page 8

# U.S. Hopes for Boon As Oil Prices Plunge To Lowest in Decade

By Martha M. Hamilton Washington Post Service

AT & TOURECT" SERVICE WASHINGTON -- With oil prices dipping below \$13 a barrel, the lowest price in a decade, economists say they could bring an economic boon that would offset some of the pain caused by the Asian economic crisis.

The drop has driven crude oil to its lowest level, after adjusting for inflation, since the 1970s energy crisis. Gasoline prices in some parts of the United States have thopped below a dollar a gallon — the lowest inflationadjusted price ever - and experts say consumers could see the benefits of cheaper ou reverberate through the U.S. economy for months to come. Some experts predict drop to as low as \$10 a barrel.

"The U.S. consumer and American business benefits greatly from a slide in oil prices and the reduced cost of asoline, heating fuel, and all of the items and services that are affected by lower oil and energy prices." said Allen Sinai, chief economist at Primark Decision Ecohomics. "That includes, eventually, the plastic wrappings on items Americans buy in the grocery stores. It's a win-win for a country that is a big oil

The largest Russian oil company, Yuksi, noted Wednesday that many oil-exporting countries were not sharing the gains, Reuters reported. "The world oil rice decrease, and the refusal of some OPEC members to limit oil production is more dangerous to the Russian economy than the stock crisis in East Asia,"

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A referee trying to stop the fatal fight between Yevgeni Zolotaryov, top, and Douglas Dedge.

# Ultimate Fight, Ultimate Defeat

Combatant Dies From a 'No-Holds-Barred' Match in Kiev

The Associated Press

KIEV — Douglas Dedge, who ran a school for fighters, died Wednesday from head injuries suffered during a "no-holds-barred" competition that mixes martial arts, wrestling and boxing, friends and doctors said.

Mr. Dedge, a 31-year-old American, had been hospitalized after collapsing in the ring Monday night during a match that Ukrainian organizers referred to as "ultimate fighting," a controversial

sport with few rules. 'We can say that his death was caused by severe injuries to the brain," said Petro Spasichenko, chief emergency-ward doctor at Kiev's Institute of Neurosurgery. "The parts of the brain controlling breathing and heart functions were extremely se-

Mr. Dedge had founded a school to teach the sport in Alabama, said Danny Ray, a close friend who traveled with him to Ukraine for the competition. The fight that killed Mr. Dedge lasted less than five minutes, said Mr. Ray. On the mat, Mr. Dedge had taken a series of punches to the head but was still "defending himself well" when the referee called the fight, Mr. Ray said. Mr. Dedge then stood up, but collapsed a few seconds later and was not breath-

Mr. Dedge was one of three U.S. fighters who participated in the competition, which brought a large crowd to a Kiev arena. The sport is popular in the former Soviet Union, where it is called "battle without rules.'

Only a few things are prohibited, such as eyegouging and kicking an opponent when he is down, one of the organizers of the competition said. Rules

can vary slightly from country to country.

In the United States, ultimate fighting is prohibited in some states.

No rules were broken during Mr. Dedge's fight with Yevgeni Zolotaryov, a Ukrainian, said Yuri Smetanin, general director of Club Minamoto, one of the Ukrainian organizers of the competition.
"We consider his death a tragic accident that

disturbs us greatly," Mr. Smetanin said.

# Huge Growth Seen for Internet Shopping

As Hannover Computer Fair Opens, Focus Is on Future of Electronic Commerce merce and a new age in which microchips link

By John Schmid and Victoria Shannon International Herald Tribune

HANNOVER, Germany — The chief executive of International Business Machines Corp., addressing the world's biggest computer trade fair, predicted Wednesday that the market for Internet commerce would reach \$200 billion by 2000. "As we look ahead to the next millennium, I do not

think there is any longer a question about the profound power of this technology," Louis Gerstner said at the opening of the annual Cebit trade show here. Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany, sharing the

Internet as the engine for new jobs. He called the information age "a big chance for the future." Across Europe, sales of goods and services over the Internet are projected to surge to \$30 billion by 2001

podium with Mr. Gerstner, also sang the praises of the

from \$1 billion last year. Although grandiose predictions are as much a staple of Cebit shows as the latest versions of hardware and software, Mr. Gersmer buttressed his evangelism for

the digital age with a raft of projections. He forecast exponential growth in electronic com-

everything from doorknobs to clothes to car engines. Alongside a host of technical advances to speed the information highway and eliminate its aggravating bottlenecks, electronic commerce ranks as one of the main themes emerging from among the nearly 7,300 companies from around the world displaying software, laptops, mobile phones and networking equipment.

into Cebit by its close next Wednesday. If anything, Mr. Gerstner's estimates for the growth

More than 600,000 visitors are expected to cram

of on-line business are conservative. Forrester Research Inc., a Massachusetts-based research group, predicts that Internet commerce in goods and services between businesses will grow to \$327 billion by 2002 from \$8 billion last year.

Scores of firms like Microsoft, Netscape, and Hewlett-Packard are using Cebit to hawk software for online shops. Just as important, software companies have proliferated with products meant to reassure consumers that their credit card transactions are safe. A recent Business Week/Harris Poll found that fears over personal privacy remain the main reason many consumers avoid the Internet for shopping.

# In Rome and Paris, Employers Say 'No'

# Plans for 35-Hour Workweek Spark Loudest Dissent So Far

By Alan Friedman International Herald Tribune

ROME — Employers in Italy and France dug in their heels Wednesday and demanded that their governments put on hold an attempt to create needed jobs by trimming the workweek back to 35

In Rome, the president of the Confindustria employers' federation walked out of a meeting with Prime Minister Romano Prodi. He abandoned the discussions after the government refused to broaden the talks from a presentation of legislation that would reduce the workweek from 40 to 35 hours to a discussion of all aspects of the Italian economy's competitive position in Europe.

In Paris, meanwhile, Ernest-Antoine Seilliere, president of the CNPF employers' federation, sent a strongly worded letter to Prime Minister Lionel Jospin calling for the government to delay the introduction of the 35-hour workweek from the year 2000 until 2002. Mr. Seilliere's predecessor, Jean Gandois, resigned in frustration last year over the government's plans to

proceed with the law. Some 12 people in 100 are now out of work in both France and Italy. Both countries, like much of Western Europe, have made sometimes steep financial sacrifices in their efforts to create a single currency, and their governments

are under growing pressure to switch economic priorities and create jobs.

The Prodi government had been hoping that a successful outcome of the jobs talks would be a further proof of Italy's stability as it attempts to join the single currency. Instead, the rift with employers is likely to prove an embarrassment and raise further doubts among critics who think Italy is not ready for mon-

etary union. 'We've said good-bye. We consider this phase of talks at and end," said Giorgio Fossa, president of the business leaders' association. After breaking with the government, Mr. Fossa also announced that the Confindustria might also decide to unilaterally abandon a key 1993 accord that has kept labor costs and Italian inflation down.

Italian trade union leaders reacted with surprise and anger Wednesday at the threat by Confindustria to abandon the country's landmark 1993 labor accord. The union leaders are themselves on a potential collision course with the government, and are threatening to call a general strike by next week if Mr. Prodi does not offer fresh public spending for job creation programs in the depressed south of Italy.

A spokesman for Mr. Prodi later announced that the government would go ahead and present its draft legislation on

See LABOR, Page 4

# German Sports-Drug Trial Poisons East-West Rapport

**Abusive Steroid Policy Becomes Political Symbol** 

By William Drozdiak
Washington Post Service

BERLIN — In the first criminal case involving allegations of steroid use among East German athletes, four es and two went on trial Wednesday charged with inflicting bodily harm to young swimmers by secretly giving them performance-enhancing drugs.

German prosecutors say they have gathered persuasive evidence showing the six officials were aware of health hazards in anabolic steroids when they dispensed the tiny blue pills disguised as vitamins to 19 former athletes, all minors.

Lawyers for the defendants said Wednesday that the evidence was inconclusive and urged the court to throw out the case.

Those who went on trial Wednesday include some of the most prominent swimming coaches from the Dynamo Berlin team that produced many Olympic champions. Two of them, Di-eter Lindemann and Volker Frischke,

were fired by the German swimming federation in October for concealing their connections to past doping scandals. Another coach, Dieter Krause, has quit the sport while the fourth, Rolf Glaeser, teaches swimming in Australia. The defendants face up to three years in jail if convicted. German authorities

hope the case will provide a legal foundation for pressing criminal charges against higher-ranking members of the East German sports hierarchy who may have ordered the doping program, in-cluding top Communist politicians who until now have escaped prosecution.

The trial has assumed political significance because of the burgeoning social resentment and economic disparity that continue to plague Eastern and Western Germany nearly eight years after the two countries were merged into Europe's largest nation, with 82 million citizens.

Many Easterners, who are saddled with a 25 percent unemployment rate that is more than twice the national average, say they are infuriated by patronizing attitudes of Westerners, who scorn them as lazy and ignorant products of a totalitarian culture.

Egon Krenz, East Germany's last president and Communist Party boss, criticized the trial as an unjust exercise in condemning practices of another society. He said he viewed it as another example of persistent arrogance among Westerners toward their Eastern cousins. "This case is not about drugs in

sports; it's much more a prosecution

tration not to make public a new plan to restart the peace process, apparently be-cause the U.S. bid includes a freeze on settlements - the issue highlighted by

Mr. Cook's actions. Official Israeli fury over the foreign secretary's visit to the Jewish housing

#### against East Germany and its society, which proved it was better in athletics than West Germany was," said Mr. Krenz, who is appealing a six-and-ahalf year jail sentence he received in

August for giving shoot-to-kill orders to Berlin Wall guards. While other former Communist regimes in the Soviet bloc were known to have practiced extensive doping in sports, Germany is the only country pursuing a judicial campaign with the aim of exposing the true extent of the drug program and those responsible for executing

it without regard for the long-term health

consequences on the athletes. Since the nation was unified in 1990, authorities have sifted through voluminous files seized from secret police

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## AGENDA

## India Ambiguous **On Nuclear Plans**

Sending a mixed message about its intentions, the new Hindu nationalist government said Wednesday that it would make India a declared nuclear state, then qualified its position by saying it would 'keep the option open.'

The "open option" stance seemed similar to the ambivalent approach by previous governments under which India covertly developed nuclear arms while publicly saying it merely wanted the option to build weapons.

The ambiguous declarations on nuclear policy appeared likely to set off a new round of anxiety about a nuclear arms race between India and Pakistan. Page 5.

Los Angeles's Eyes in the Sky Page 4. Serbian Police Kill an Albanian The Dollar New York Wednesday @ 3 P.M. previous close Pound 1.6718 1.6743 128.82 130,065 6.1201 6.0985

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Pages 6-7. Sports ... Pages 22-23. Sponsored Section Pages i-ii. International Education in the U.K.

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#### U.K.-Israel Tiff Puts Settlements Back in Spotlight The furious response of Prime Min-ther Reniamin Netanyahu — "fantastic canceled a dinner with Mr. Cook. By Joseph Fitchett ment had asked the Clinton adminisister Benjamin Netanyahu -- "fantastic An Arab newspaper quoted Bill Richardson, the chief U.S. delegate to the United Nations, as saying this week that Secretary of State Madeleine Albricht planned to be a saying this week that Secretary of State Madeleine Albricht planned to be a saying the saying th International Herald Tribune overreaction." a British diplomat said -

PARIS - In risking Israeli anger over an official visit to a disputed Jewish settlement in Jerusalem, the British foreign secretary, Robin Cook, pinpointed an exceptionally sensitive issue that is likely to figure in a U.S. push to revive the peace process. British and other European officials said Wednesday.

**NEWS ANALYSIS** underscored the Israeli government's discomfort in trying to balance domestic pro-settlement lobbies and the possibility that stronger U.S. pressure on the issue is imminent, according to these sources.

bright planned to launch a new initiative in separate talks, perhaps as early as next week, with Mr. Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader.

Israel's state-run television reported

See ISRAEL, Page 8

# The Helicopter: Civic Icon of L.A. in the '90s

By Todd S. Purdum New York Times Service

OS ANGELES — When the sun sinks over the Pacific and the freeways fill with cars. when the nightly newscasts start and the bad guys begin to cruise, the big birds rise — two, three, five, a dozen helicopters hovering in the California twilight, trolling for trouble, ready to televise it live.

On balmy evenings, when windows are open, the choppers' thrumming rotors fill the air with crisscrossing crackles, like the opening credits of "M\*A\*S\*H." Their 30 million candlepower searchlights strafe the bedroom windows of unsuspecting civilians suddenly caught up in police efforts to catch a thief or news crews' efforts to capture the catch.

A juicy freeway police pursuit can fill up a whole local newscast — even preempt half the network news, as one did to Tom Brokaw of NBC two weeks ago. A bar in Hermosa Beach recently offered "Happy hour prices during all car chases," and the helicopter is such a civic icon that the city's Metropolitan Transportation Authority includes a stylized sketch of one among a handful of images that

decorate its scrip-paper bus transfers.

"It's definitely the premier helicopter market in the country," said Larry Perret, the news director of KCBS-TV, the local CBS affiliate, which, like almost every other station in town, operates its own helicopter at a cost approaching \$1 million a year. "The reason is simple: geography. The massive area creates all sorts of logistical problems in terms of coverage of breaking news.'

Connecticut, and the same challenge applies to law enforcement, fire and other emergency services. The Los Angeles Police Department has 16 patrol helicopters and one transport, the largest municipal fleet in the world, compared with just six for the New York City Police Department.

The Los Angeles Police Depart-ment pioneered the use of helicopters

A local bar offers happy hour prices during televised car chases.

nationally in 1957, and television stations soon followed suit, offering traffic reports from airborne news crews and coverage of breaking events — in the beginning with camera cables dangling to the ground. In a poignant footnote, Francis Gary Powers, the U-2 espionage pilot who survived the downing of his spy plane by the Soviet Union in 1960, died when he ran out of a fuel and crashed as a traffic reporter for KNBC-TV in 1977.

Now the police have forward-looking infrared devices that can detect the slightest movement hundreds of feet below, and the TV crews have microwave transmitters and elaborate gyroscopic camera mounts that cost \$300,000 to \$500,000 each and deliver crystal-clear, jiggle-free pictures.
"It's irresistible," said Jerry

Nachman, a longtime news director at local stations in New York and Washington and former editor of The New

Los Angeles County, at 4,000 square miles (10,400 square kilometers), is roughly four-fifths the size of Incorrect." They do it better here than anywhere else. The pilots and airborne reporters really know their onions. They do it more here than anywhere else, with New York coming up fast." The technology is so irresistible, in

fact, that some broadcast news veterans complain that it has all but supplanted other kinds of coverage, as stations pare their reporting staffs to help finance the helicopters, which cost about \$600 an hour to fly. Mr. Perret, the KCBS news director, said that his station made a concerted effort to save helicopter coverage for the big events, but he readily acknowledged that the ratings had been known to double in as little as 10 or 15

minutes during a big chase.

"I think it's grossly overdone now," said Pete Noyes, who was managing editor of KNBC here before retiring in 1992 and has held similar senior posts at other stations. "When it's worthwhile, a riot or a big event, then it should be used. But a couple of years ago there was a murder in a parking lot in a shopping center in Torrance, and they sent a copter to shoot it and it was just this little stick figure lying on the ground."

For the police, the choppers are an invaluable tool, enabling them to cover in mere minutes distances that could easily take an hour or more on clogged surface streets, and to spot hazards officers on the ground cannot see.
When a pairol car can no longer safely chase a fleeing suspect through crowded streets, a chopper can.

"We can paint a picture for them like Vin Scully calling a Dodgers game," said John Harrell, a pilot in the police department's air support division, as he and his tactical support partner, Ken Phillippe, dipped and bobbed high over Hollywood in tight precision for a reporter's benefit one recent afternoon.

The police often work in tandem with the news crews, and California Highway Patrol officers routinely provide expert running commentary with the news anchors during big chases, but sometimes all the airbome traffic itself becomes a problem.

Flying paparazzi," said Mr. Har-rell, whose record was 11 helicopters and two airplanes hovering around him during a car chase. Still, Bob Pettee, a Vietnam veteran

who is one of the city's most experienced pilots and has flown for KNBC since 1983, said pilots worked together, in a professional association and in the air, to avoid mishaps. "It may look chaotic when you see a chase coming down the freeway," he said, "but I assure you, it's choreographed."

OST STATIONS have copters airborne for several hours for morning traffic reports and at the ready at other times. But in the TV ratings sweeps periods, they stay aloft during all regularly scheduled news programs, ready to break in.

On Feb. 10, a man accused of driving

a stolen pickup truck led the highway patrol - and an armada of news chonpers that transmitted it live—on a two-hour chase through southern Los Angeles, running lights, bumping into cars and hijacking a van after one of his tires went flat before finally smashing the van into a freeway divider. Law enforcement officials say that no such fleeing suspect has eluded eventual capture when copters are in pursuit.



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By Brian Knew Iton

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For Mr. Harrell and his airborne colleagues, the city is a wonderland of contrasts, from the multimillion-dollar houses of Beverly Hills, whose normally unseen backyards zoom into close-up, to the mean streets of South Central Los Angeles.

For residents stuck on the ground, "the noise signature of 10 helicopters is intense," as Mr. Harrell put it, evoking the unnerving sense of a battlefield evacuation in progress.

But Kenneth Brooks, executive director of the California Council for Veterans Affairs, a private nonprofit group that aids veterans, said his organization did not get any particular noise complaints from veterans. "The only ones complaining are the

homeowners," said Mr. Brooks. "People want to call the police and complain," he added, "but then they're afraid they won't get good ser-

vice, and they want that even more."

# Plot Thickens Over ANC Rebel's Arrest

By Lynne Duke Washington Post Service

The case of a senior South revenge for his past in the African foreign affairs offi- guerrilla movement against cial who was arrested and accused of arms trafficking has taken a sinister turn as the police have begun investigating a military intelligence re-port of possible links between the official and a plot against President Nelson Mandela's government, a senior police official said.

The arrest of the official. Robert McBride, in Mozambique last week has stunged

rings, including reports that he has become a victim of apartheid, the system of racial separation under white rule.

There was official word on Tuesday that even an antigovernment plot had emerged as a possibility. Pending an investigation,

Mr. McBride was suspended from his post as a director of the Southeast Asia desk of the Department of Foreign Af-

A simultaneously celebrat-South African political, law ed and hated saboteur in the circles. Because there is scant the now-governing African official information about the National Congress, Mr. details of the case, whispered McBride was sentenced to and published speculation has death, subsequently comexploded about Mr. Mc- muted to life imprisonment,

Bride's possible involvement for the 1986 bombing of a government would respect in crime syndicates or spy Durban beachfront bar in the Mozambican justice syswhich three people were killed.

> political indemnity to certain evidence against year, the Truth and Recon- been charged with a crime. ciliation Commission granted Mr. McBride amnesty in ex- said he now had a classified

The current case against mation him is deeply embarrassing McBride" and raises the posenforcement and diplomatic anti-apartheid fight waged by for the African National Con-sibility of an anti-government are, like Mr. McBride, former members of the party's armed wing, Umkhonto weSizwe, or Spear of the Nation, which was foun-

ded by Mr. Mandela. But while the so-called armed struggle is a thing of the past since South Africa's transition from apartheid to nonracial democracy after the 1994 election, the allegations against Mr. McBride suggest that not everyone has left the past behind.

Senior ANC and government officials have distanced themselves from McBride. After meeting with Mozambican officials Monday in the capital. Maputo, where Mr. McBride is jailed, Safety and Security Minister heists on South African Sydney Mufamadi said the roads.

tem and not interfere in the

In 1992, during negoti- Suiker Britz, assistant ations to end apartheid, the commissioner of the South Suiker Britz, assistant African National Congress African Police Service, who and the then-governing Na-tional Party agreed to grant told the news media that the prisoners, and Mr. McBride's McBride suggests a solid conviction was set aside. Last case. Mr. McBride has not yet

In an interview, Mr. Britz change for his full disclosure report from the South African about the bombing opera- military intelligence service that contains "a lot of inforgress. Many of the leading plot. Another police official the report, but neither official

would divulge details. The investigation into Mr. McBride's arrest March 9, coupled with the government's uncoordinated response, has sparked a run of published conspiracy theor-

They range from suggestions of a disinformation campaign to discredit the government to suggestions that Mr. McBride could have been involved with such farflung causes as the Irish Republican Army or East Timorese rebels. There has been speculation that he was part of an arms network supplying the perpetrators of a rash of deadly armored car

# TRAVEL UPDATE

#### Snow Covers Northern Israel

JERUSALEM (AP) — Deep snow blanketed Jerusalem and northern Israel on Wednesday, paralyzing public transportation and closing schools.

News reports said that more than 46 centimeters (18 inches) of snow fell in the Golan Heights and Galilee. In Jerusalem, about 8 centimeters closed the mountain road that climbs up to the Holy City, cutting it off from metropolitan Tel Aviv.

Snow also covered the Palestinian-governed towns of Ramallah and Bethlehem, and Israel offered the Palestinian Authority help in clearing roads. The offer was turned down.

## Greece Adds High-Speed Train

ATHENS (Reuters) - Greece's railroads will begin a highspeed link between the northern city of Thessaloniki and Skopje,

the capital of the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia.

The first train will run April 9, the Greek Rail Organization

# Shanghai-Paris Flights Starting

BELING (AFP) — Air France announced in Shanghai that would resume flights from that city to Paris beginning May will offered a version of the country with Mr. Cl. it would resume flights from that city to Paris beginning May 12. Two flights a week are scheduled until September, when it will add a third flight, the Xinhua press agency reported. China Eastern Airlines announced that it would begin Shanghai-Paris flights on July 7, with two flights a week until

The French national railroad will accept reservations via the Internet starting this summer. Although passengers will accorded to the still have to go to a railroad station to pay for the tickets, seats

September, when it will add a third flight, Xinhua said.

## WEEKEND SKI REPORT

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# WEATHER

# North America Europe

Cloudy, damp and rainy in the East Friday and Sotur-day, but some sun may through Sunday. Southern Televant to the Southeast and mid-Atlantic states Sunday.

Soaking rain its in atora is likely scross the Alps. Southern Televant Televant

Latin America

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elements of travel. The Teading Hotels of the World

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# minimates — current or minimates — have dropped of the 1,842 in 1996 from 2 95/ lances has gone up sub MERICAN

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hall through Nebraska to the hed to settle on the way bodid stay built houses of heraska marble, "dieses

Metraska marble, there were so few and offered under the same of t

purpose from the East and services from the East and services for the settled.

The first change a bit, as small services from the services from the East and harsely settled. Verdigre market theme Some Success as retire lust ask Pat McCarron

Chicago who was smitan autumn trip through the and decided to stay. big old house, a big is a sarden, he said it is wonderful here.

aging say that the low-

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19-03-98

Manchester's Airport Disrupted evacuated by emergency The chutes from the British Air-LONDON

Manchester airport was closed to all flights on Wednesday morning after an air-liner's nose wheel collapsed on landing, an airport spokes-

Fifty-eight passengers and Leeds-Bradford airport and four crew members were Liverpool.

ways jet, Flight BA 7783 from Southampton to from Manchester and Belfast, One person reported minor ankle injuries. Flights were diverted to

Europe

-8/18 C 3/37 E -1/37 E -1/37 E -1/44 St -1/20 ct -3/37 S -8/18 St -8/18 St -9/18 of -1/31 f -1/34 pc -1/34 pc -1/34 pc -1/34 pc

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21/76 9/48 0 24/75 13/56 pc 23/73 13/55 sh 26/78 13/55 pc 32/89 28/79 pc 79/94 16/69 pc 18/84 8/46 s

Correction

In the March 13 Special Report on Fashion, Issey Miyake's age was incorrect. He is 59.

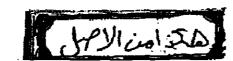
In this Friday's Leisure The Car Column

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Middle East

THE AMERICAS



# **Publisher Loses Interest** In Willey Book Project

Accusation Against Clinton Is Called a Switch

By Brian Knowlton

WASHINGTON — A publisher said a Wednesday that he had lost interest in a look proposal from one of President Bill Clinton's accusers because the televised account she provided this week told "a different story" from what her lawyer had described months earlier about her relationship to the president.

Meanwhile, although opinion polls showed Mr. Clinton's job-approval rat-ings unshaken by the allegations from Kathleen Willey, a former White House volunteer, of unwanted sexual touching by the president, there were new signs that many women found her credible and were losing patience with Mr. Clin-

"People are taking these allegations 'very seriously," Susan Collins, a firstterm Republican senator from Maine. said Wednesday.

Mrs. Willey, a Democratic Party activist, broke a long silence Sunday to allege before millions of television viewers that Mr. Clinton fondled her breasts and placed her hand on his genitals in a meeting on Nov. 29, 1993. He has denied doing so.

Clinton defenders, trying to counter the impact of Mrs. Willey's dramatic the impact or was. which appearance, had suggested that she appearance, nau suggested about sought to profit from a book deal about sought to prum months the House.

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TRIBUIL

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and Mr. Brooks

The publisher who was contacted months ago by the amount of the CBS nesday that her appearance on the CBS months ago by her attorney said Wed-News program "60 Minutes" did not help the case for a book.

The Kathleen Willey presented on 100 Minutes' was a different person with a different story than the portrait that had been painted for me in the last couple of months," said Michael Viner, president of New Millennium Press in Beverly Hills, California.

Mr. Viner said Mrs. Willey's lawyer. Daniel Gecker, had approached him earlier, seeking \$300,000 for a book that presented her as "a fan, a friend who cared about President Clinton."

'It was more of a story of her life," Mr. Viner said. By Sunday, he added, Marin same set of facts we were presented with."

He did not say, however, that Mr.
Gecker had offered a version of Mrs.
Willey's encounter with Mr. Clinton
that differed from her televised ac-

Mr. Gecker has acknowledged hav-ing held talks with Mr. Viner about a `arriada <u>.</u> book and told The New York Times that appearance could arouse interest in such

a book, Mr. Viner told The Times that he and Mr. Gecker had spoken about a deal that would include a \$100,000 ad-

But he said he had lost interest now in a Willey book. "It would have to be something that's so compelling," he said, "and it's not that piece of lightning

Robert Bennett, Mr. Clinton's private lawyer, suggested Sunday on television that Mrs. Willey might have appeared on "60 Minutes" to profit me her accusations against the president. She had not made the charges publicly, though they were reported last summer by Newsweek magazine.

The White House has sought to discount the "60 Minutes" account. Aides noted that in her Jan. 11 deposition in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case. she referred to the Newsweek story of last summer as "garbage."

The Newsweek account reported that

Linda Tripp, a former executive assistant in the White House counsel's office, said she had encountered Mrs. Willey in the White House shortly after Mrs. Willey's meeting with Mr. Clinton in November 1993.

Ms. Tripp said Mrs. Willey spoke of having been kissed and fondled by Mr. Clinton. But Ms. Tripp added that Mrs. Willey appeared "happy and joyful."
Not long after than Ms. Tripp began

tape recording her phone conversations with Monica Lewinsky, apparently angered that Mr. Bennett had attacked her credibility. Ms. Willey appeared last week before

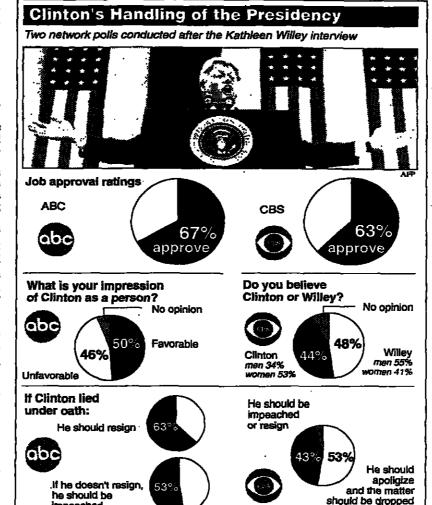
the grand jury investigating allegations that Mr. Clinton had an affair with Ms. Lewinsky, a former White House intern, then asked her to lie about it. The president has adamantly denied the accu-

Opinion polls taken a day after the Willey television interview showed Americans evenly split on whether they believed her account or Mr. Clinton's Feminists have supported Mr. Clin-

ton because of his backing of abortion rights and his stance on child care and other issues. Women's electoral support contributed to the 17 percent "gender that re-elected Mr. Clinton in But there have been signs of slippage

and criticism after the Willey appearance, and not only from Republicans.

'The accusation is very serious,' said Stephanie Cohen, communications director of Emily's List, which raises money for women Democratic candidates. "It was a credible account and it's very disturbing. It makes you very un-,comfortable.



# Americans Keep Heeding Call to Go West (and South)

### Census Data Portend Shift in Political Balance

New York Times Service WASHINGTON - The Northeast and the Midwest are continuing to lose ground to the booming growth centers of the South and West, according to a new census report, a development inexorably shifting the nation's political and economic might.

What we're seeing is the Northeast and Midwest losing its political clout," said Dick Munson, executive director of the Northeast-Midwest Institute, a bipartisan research organization for members of Congress. "The leadership of this Congress is decidedly Southern. And they are doing a pretty good job of getting dollars for their states."

The survey of population changes in the nation's 3,142 counties showed that while the nation grew by an estimated 0.9 percent last year, the Northeast's population increased by only 0.2 percent and the Midwest by 0.6 percent. At the same time, the West's population grew by 1.6 percent and the South by 1.3 percent.

The list of the nation's fastest-growing larger counties from 1990 to 1997 graphically demonstrates the shift to the South and the West. The first three slots were held by communities just south of Denver, where the sprinting growth of high-tech industries and the charm of Rocky Mountain living has attracted a flood of transplants from California and

But at the other end of the spectrum the list of counties that lost the most population since 1990 was laden with Northeastern urban areas, including Philadelphia, which was at the top; Hartford, Connecticut, and two boroughs of New York City, Brooklyn and the Bronx. New York City's population grew overall by 0.2 percent, however, because of growth in the three other boroughs, Manhattan, Staten Island and

The political implications of the Census Bureau's new report, which was based on estimates of population growth, are potentially immense.

A broad range of federal policies are based on census statistics, from appor-tioning seats in the House of Representatives to allocating federal funds for hundreds of programs.

The report, made public on Tuesday, offers the closest thing to a preview of the national census in the year 2000. which is intended to be the most accurate accounting of the nation's population. As such it foreshadows losses in federal aid and congressional seats for the Northeast and Midwest come the new millennium.

The statistics also have broad implications for each state's internal politics. Significant growth in metropolitan regions' suburbs will give them increasing power in state legislatures and over gubernatorial elections.

### POLITICAL NOTES



CHICAGO - Peter Fitzgerald, a conservative Republican who tapped into a family fortune to finance his maverick congressional campaign, has defeated the Republican Party's handpicked candidate, a moderate whom party officials across the United States were counting on to retake the U.S. A Spending Blueprint Senate seat from a Democrat, Carol Moseley-Braun. Ms. Moseley-Braun is considered vulnerable because of firstterm controversies.

On Tuesday, voters in the Illinois Republican primary nominated Mr. President Bill Clinton's calls for in-Fitzgerald, a 37-year-old state senator creased domestic spending but who opposes abortion and gun control and who spent nearly \$7 million on television ads. The nomination is a blow to the moderate wing of the Republican Party, whose leaders believe that a conservative cannot win a statewide race.

Illinois Republican leaders had

pinned their hopes for winning their first Senate election in two decades on the state comptroller, Loleta Didrickson.

But despite endorsements from Jim Edgar, the popular Republican governor of Illinois, Bob Dole, the Republican presidential nominee in 1996, and others on her behalf, Ms. Didrickson was unable to beat back the challenge from Mr. Fitzgerald. (WP)

WASHINGTON — The chairman of the Senate Budget Committee has proposed a Republican fiscal blueprint for next year that rejects nearly all of creased domestic spending but provides smaller tax cuts than sought by many Republicans.

The proposal from Senator Pete Domenici, Republican of New Mexico, is the first detailed Republican budget plan this year and appeared likely to be mittee this week over Democratic op- controversial.

position. If approved by the full Senate, it would serve as the chamber's broad tax and spending guideline as it confronts the first federal budget surpluses in a generation and begins grappling with the long-term financial crises facing Social Security and Medicare.

The plan calls for federal spending of \$1.73 trillion, an increase of 3.6 percent over this year, but turns aside White House proposals for education, child care and health care initiatives. (NYT)

#### **Quote/Unquote**

Back after serving 13 months in prison and two years in a halfway house for mail fraud in the operations of his House office, Dan Rostenkowski, one of the most influential Democratic lawmakers of his generation, on trying, at age 70, to salvage his public image: "I'm not going to be the biggest lob-byist in the world, nor the biggest celebrity out of prison in the world. The adopted more or less intact by the com- last thing I want to do is to become

#### **Away From Politics**

• Brooklyn, long associated with violence, gangs and drug trafficking, went a whole week without a single murder for the first time in memory, from March 8 to March 15, the police in the New York City borough said.

• There is now a single federal task force investigating three bombings in Atlanta, including the July 1996 attack at Centensignial Olympic Park, and the bombing of a Birmingham (Alabama) abortion clinic bombing, all in the last two years. The task force succeeds one that had been looking into whether Eric Rudolf, who is charged with the Birming-ham bombing, might be responsible for the attacks in At-

A Christmas ornament addressed to Hillary Clinton at the White House was blown to bits by a bomb squad in Malvern, Arkansas, which was called to examine the package after it was dropped off at city hall by a woman who ran off after leaving the ornament, a handmade angel.

Two brothers were convicted of murder and other charges in an attack on three teenagers who hopped a freight train in the suburbs of Flint, Michigan, and mistakenly got off in a bad neighborhood, where they asked for help finding a pay phone elast June. One of the victims, a boy, was killed. A girl in the group was sexually assaulted.

Murders by intimates — current or former spouses, boyfriends or girlfriends — have dropped 36 percent in the last two decades, to 1,842 in 1996 from 2,957 in 1976, the Justice Department reported, but the proportion of women killed in such circumstances has gone up substantially.

By Howard Schneider Washington Post Service

TORONTO - What Jean Charest wants to be is Canada's prime minister. What he is being asked, lobbied, pressed and begged to do is switch political parties, abandon the national stage for provincial politics in Quebec and tap his considerable popnlarity there to try to defeat the province's separatist premier in the next local election.

Mr. Charest's decision appears to leave the future of Canada in the hands of a politician whose youth, ambition and charisma on the stump have led to comparisons with President Bill Clinton.

His election in Quebec would eliminate the chance of another separatist referendum for the years he governed the province. And those most enthusiastic about the idea say that the son of French- and 'pleas to save the country. English-speaking parents fluent in both official lan-

shape opinion among many of the French-speaking Quebecers who want to form their own country, and thus unify Canada once and for all.

AT THE BALL GAME - Mon-

ica Lewinsky reacting to a

missed shot Tuesday at an NBA

basketball game in Washington.

impeached

It is a big idea that carries big risks — chief among them, losing to Premier Lucien Bouchard's Parti Quebecois. Even if Mr. Charest, 39, won, he would be trading his dream of running the country for the grind of administering a provincial government and trying to quell the separatist challenge.

On the other hand, the fever in Canada is running so high for Mr. Charest to battle Mr. Bouchard that to refuse the challenge could be politically ruinous. From call-in shows to constituents, from people on the street to Prime Minister Jean Chretien, Mr. Charest has been beset with

He has made some pro-"The guy is always faced with these big, huge de-

guages and passionate about cisions," said his spokes- seats in the last election. Quebec — could even re- woman, Rita Mezzanotte, but Whether his present this latest "is quite a ton of cumstance is viewed more as bricks." The move would an opportunity or a predicforce him to abandon his party and his national political

With Canada's Future at Stake, Can a Politican Say 'No'?

plans, she said, as well as uprooting his wife and children from a newly purchased home in Ottawa, the federal capital. It would be a tough town for national unity debate. him to leave. After the disastrous showing for the Pro-

pressive Conservatives under Prime Minister Kim Campbell in the 1993 elections. Mr. Charest took over a party that had only two seats in the House of Commons. His goal has been to restore the party to its historic place as the chief alternative to Mr. Chretien's Liberal Party, combating what servatism of the more Westem-based Reform Party while positioning himself as a future prime minister.

gress. Mr. Charest's party won 20 House of Commons and how ill-prepared both the

Whether his present cir-

an opportunity or a predicament, simply being viewed as the best hope to lead Quebec's Liberals against Mr. Bouchard says a lot about both Quebec politics and the state of what Canada calls its

That he might switch parties to undertake this challenge is not surprising. Quebec has no provincial Progressive Conservative party; the local politics there are divided between the Liberals as a mediocre and not very and the Parti Quebecois, which have alternated in power since the late 1960s. Philosophically, it is not a large leap for Mr. Charest to he views as the excessive con- move from the modest conservatism of his national

party to the Quebec Liberals. What is remarkable is how much of Canada's political landscape can hinge on one person's career choices —

provincial and federal Liberals seem to be to challenge Mr. Bouchard.

After the 1995 referendum on Quebec's future went down to narrow defeat, the next provincial election naturally was regarded as a precursor to another sovereignty plebiscite. A victory by Mr. Bouchard would give the sovereigntists momentum, as well as an incentive to move quickly, while he remained in office.

The previous head of the Ouebec Liberal Party, Daniel Johnson, was long recognized popular politician. Doubts about his leadership grew recently as polls showed him trailing Mr. Bouchard by

tion call expected as early as this spring. Unexpectedly, Mr. John-

son quit. But what has followed looks less like a leadership race than an attempted coronation. No other candidates were in position, or have since stepped forward, to take over the party that is Quebec's main alternative to Mr. Bouchard and the separatists. "People are saying Jean

Charest has to save the coun-Ms. Mezzanotte said His answer is that he believes in leadership, not saviors." 'He belièves there is a lack

of leadership in Ottawa," she added, "if suddenly the leader of the Liberals resigns and trailing Mr. Bouchard by there is only one guy to credy more than ever, with an elecibly challenge Mr. Bouchard.

# **AMERICAN TOPICS**

#### In Nebraska, the Good Life

When thousands of Americans, beginning in the 1840s, followed the Oregon Trail through Nebraska to the tich farmlands of Oregon, few willingly stopped to settle on the way. One explorer had called Nebraska 'almost wholly unfit for farming.' Many who did stay built houses of - "Nebraska marble," they called it - because there were so few

But free land offered under the Homestead Act was a powerful lure, and the Union Pacific railroad recraited settlers from the East and even Europe. Still, most of Nebraska remains sparsely settled.

That might change a bit, as small

towns like Verdigre market themselves with some success as retire-ment havens. Just ask Pat McCarron, a retiree from Chicago who was smitten during an autumn trip through the Nebraska plains and decided to stay. Tve got a big old house, a big wooded lot, a garden," he said. "I have a lot of friends that I hang out with at the cafe. It's wonderful here.

Experts on aging say that the lowcost living (an attractive house can be

had for under \$80,000), low crime rates and relaxed lifestyle of some Great Plains towns have made them increasingly popular retirement

A town like Verdigre may have no shopping malls or museums, but there is the state park and the friendly chatter at the Rainbow Café. For public transportation, there is Mildred Krupicka, 75, who will drive you anywhere in her old Chevy Cavalier. 'When I want to do something, I can do it," said another retiree, Kenneth Peterson of California. "I don't have to deal with the traffic and crowds."

#### **Short Takes**

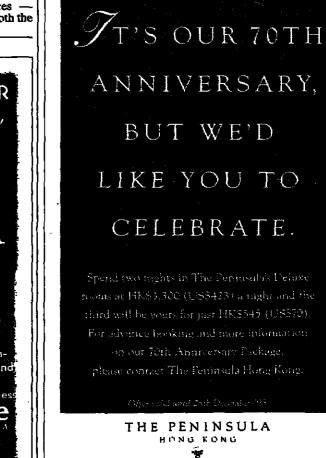
It's not like a certain movie in which a band of plucky scientists career around the countryside finding a powerful new twister every few hours, but a nationwide network of 120,000 trained spotters has proved invaluable at spotting tornadoes for the National Weather Service. With tornado season approaching in the region from Texas through Indiana, thousands more are being trained, The New York Times reports. Part of what they are told is reassuring: Tornadoes are rare. One spotter in Missouri says he has seen one in 17 years. New spotters are taught to respect one of nature's most destructive forces. They are shown film of a storm picking up six vehicles then spewing them out. Spotters are encouraged to maintain their distance. "These guys who chase," said one expert, "are nuts."

Thanks in part to the heavy rains brought by El Niño, some of the driest parts of the California desert are exploding with wildflowers in a rare show. The blossoms have attracted students, photographers and regular flower-lovers to witness what some are calling the bloom of the century. Species usually seen only once in 10 years are abloom, and the National Science Foundation in Washington has awarded emergency grants for field studies. As one scientist said, "It's like the ultimate Easter egg hunt."

When Detective Victor Mendes busted into a suspected drug house in New Bedford, Massachusetts, last month, he was startled to find an alligator on guard. "It's the new status thing," he said later. Criminals, he added, have "graduated from pit bulls." The police in the port city have lately crossed paths with four alligators or caimans, a gator relative, which are illegal in Massachusens. Officers in other cities report similar experiences. But caimans, animal experts say, rarely hurt strangers. "You can't train a caiman to attack," said Susan Littlefield, public health veterinarian for Rhode Island. "I'd rather face one than a Rottweiler."

Brian Knowlton





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# Serbian Police Kill Albanian in Kosovo as U.S. Envoy Protests

Compiled by Our Staff From Disperch

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia — Serbian policemen shot and killed an ethnic Albanian demonstrator Wednesday as the U.S. Balkans envoy, Robert Gelbard, accused Serbian authorities of "outrageous acts" of intimidation and violence in the province of Kosovo.

Mr. Gelbard, in Pristina to meet ethnic Albanian political leaders demanding independence from Serbia, warned President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia that "serious and biting sanctions" in punishment for the Kosovo dispute were getting

Strobe Talbott, the deputy U.S. secretary of state, drove home Washington's message during a visit to Bulgaria, where he accused the Serbs of ethnic cleansing and summary executions in Kosovo.

About 40,000 Albanians staged a peaceful demonstration in Pristina, the capital of Kosovo, on Wednesday, calling for an end to police violence and independence for the province, but there were

Papon Placed

**His Ambition** 

**Above Morals**,

BORDEAUX -- Maurice Papon, the

ormer Vichy official who is accused of

crimes against humanity during World

War II, was an ambitious and brilliant

bureaucrat whose career came before all

moral considerations, a state prosecutor

Marc Robert, delivering his final ar-

gument before the verdict in the nearly

six-month trial, depicted Mr. Papon as a cold-blooded administrator ready to carry out the Vichy government's anti-

Semitic laws to get ahead.

"Maurice Papon belonged to a gengration of civil servants for whom good work came before anything else," Mr.

Robert said. "Civil servants who were

brilliant and efficient, but had no second

thoughts about their actions." He de-

scribed such people as "without moral

values, and for whom everything was

"Maurice Papon wanted to rise to the op fast and at any price, he added.

Mr. Papon. 87, is accused of ordering

the arrest for deportation of 1,560 Jews,

223 of them children, from 1942 to 1944,

when he was secretary-general of the prefect's office in the Bordeaux region

and supervisor of its Service for Jewish Questions.

Bordeaux wrote enthusiastic evaluations

him as "a talented administrative spe-

cialist who supports Philippe Petain and

Pierre Laval," the leader and prime min-

ist French regime. "Can be trusted," the

him and said he spent the war saving

Jewish lives and helping the Resistance

But Vichy offered him the powerful

prefect's job in other areas of southwest

France three times in two years, all of

which he turned down. Mr. Robert said.

This, he continued, showed that Vichy's

leaders appreciated Mr. Papon, his mer-

its and his devotion to Vichy enough to

The second state prosecutor will de-

Lawyers are divided over how severe

a sentence the jury should be asked to

give Mr. Papon, with some asking for life in prison and others believing he

deserves a mitigated sentence to stress

the difference between the Germans and

someone who simply signed orders to

Mr. Papon's lawyer, Jean-Marc Va-

raut, said he believed his client could be

acquitted if the jury refused to go along

with what Mr. Varaut said was an at-

tempt to place "collective guilt" on his

...Seeking a *right* ......

Investment Opportunities in Pakistan.

arrangement of Investment Seminars

marketing of investment package

media damage control

liver his final statement on Thursday

offer him positions of responsibility.

before asking for a sentence.

climb Vichy's ladder.

client's shoulders.

Mr. Papon denied the charges against

ister, respectively, of the co

to the occupying Germans.

reports added.

Mr. Robert noted that Nazi officials in

old a French court Wednesday.

**Court Is Told** 

one man and seriously wounded five in the western town of Pec during protests that were called across Serbia's southernmost province to greet Mr. Gel-

Mr. Milosevic has until Thursday to meet demands by the Contact Group of international overseers to make progress with the Albanians after make "constructive proposals" about cooperation bloodshed this month cost at least 80 lives in fighting with Serbian police.

The Contact Group has threatened Yugoslavia with tighter sanctions if peace talks do not start.

Earlier Wednesday, the Albanians rejected the latest of a series of invitations to confer with Serbian officials, insisting that they were prepared to discuss only independence and wanted an outside mediator. Both demands were rejected by

The French and German foreign ministers. Hubert Vedrine and Klaus Kinkel, will fly to Bel-Hubert Vedrine and Klaus Kinkel, will fly to Bel-grade Thursday in an effort to wring a compromise from spilling over from Kosovo, 300 kilometers groups.

The Kosovo Information Center, which is operated by Albanians, said that police bullets killed deadline expires. In addition to France and Germany, the Contact Group comprises Italy, the United States, Britain and Russia.

According to French diplomats, the two foreign ministers may offer Serbia cooperation agreements in return for concessions on Kosovo.

The diplomats said that the two ministers could between Belgrade and the European Union if Serbia allowed the EU to open an office in Pristina.

In Sofia, while Mr. Talbott accused Yugoslavia of carrying out summary executions and ethnic cleansing in Kosovo, he said that the world should use pressure instead of force to resolve the crisis.

Right now we all feel that the principal instruments available to us are political, economic and diplomatic," Mr. Talbott said after talks with Prime Minister Ivan Kostov of Bulgaria.

Mr. Talbott visited Sofia as part of a Balkan

(185 miles) west of Sofia. He indicated that Washington was ready to impose more sanctions against Yugoslavia if it did not open dialogue with Kosovo's ethnic Albanians but said that the United States had not considered deploying more North Atlantic Treaty Organization troops in the region.
"We are going to work with NATO and make

sure that all instruments available to us to shore up the region of this conflict are used," he said. "But the issue of further deployment of NATO

forces has not arisen.' He said the Contact Group "pushed very hard for meaningful constructive dialogue between the

Kosovo Albanians and Belgrade. But it is also calling on Belgrade to cease its brutal repressive campaign, which involves ethnic cleansing, summary executions and mass expulsions," he said.

At least 80 ethnic Albanians have been killed in a Serbian crackdown that started Feb. 28 against what Belgrade regards as terrorist secessionist

# (Reuters, AP, AFP)

# **Belfast Prison**

BELFAST-The police arrested several immates at Maze Prison on Wednesday for questioning about the murder of an inmate who was found savagely

The police did not identify those arrested or say how many were being questioned. According to the Press Association, the British press agency, the prisoners were believed to be associated with the Loyalist Volunteer Force, a pro-British group that has claimed responsibility for several recent killings.

The same group took responsibility for placing a bomb Tuesday night out-side a Roman Catholic church hall in Larne, north of Belfast, where Protestants and Catholics were having a St. Patrick's Day party. An army team dis-armed the device, and no one was hurt.

about the death of David Keyes, 26, who was found hanged Sunday. He was one of four suspected members of the Loyalist Volunteer Force charged last week with murdering two friends - one Catholic and one Protestant - in a bar March 3. **■ Clinton Meets With All Sides** 

Steven Erlanger of The New York

In a statement published Wednesday, the conference of 17 rabbis warned that peace negotiations paraded through the Oval Office to hear President Bill Clinbetween the two religions, which has the conference of 17 rabbis warned that made important strides in the past 35 the declaration could not "undo the long ton admonish them not to squander "the centuries of oppression, the Inquisition The Pope, who lived through the Nazi and the persecution which culminated chance of a lifetime for peace."

of the Jewish people, we recognize the ers in a "30-hour marathon effort."

Northern Ireland in May to campaign for a "yes" vote before a referendum, in both parts of Ireland, that could take place as early as May 22. That could lead to elections for a new Northern Ireland Assembly by the end of June.

peace in Ireland," Mr. Clinton said after meeting with the Irish prime minister, Bertie Ahem.

# **Inmates Held** In Probe of A Murder at

beaten and hanged.

The prisoners were being questioned

Times reported: All the parties to the Northern Ireland

Mr. Clinton, wearing an acid-green tie But it added that while dismayed by and green cuff links sent to him by Irish sibility for the centuries of persecution Irish and Northern Ireland political lead-

The goal of the meetings, from Monday evening through Tuesday night, the president said, was "to close as many gaps" as he could in the Irisa peace process, with the hope that the negotiations under British and Irish auspices can produce a political framework by

If so, Mr. Clinton may visit Ireland and

"This is the chance of a lifetime for

Mr. Clinton met Gerry Adams of Sinn Fein, the Irish Republican Army's political wing, Monday night. On Tue he met David Trimble, leader of the province's largest party, the Ulster Unionists; John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labor Party; Gary McMichael of the Ulster Democratic Party, and Lord Alderdice, leader of the small, nonsectarian Alliance Party.

# BRIEFLY Nazi Convict's Move Indian Governa

Upsets Italian Town

ROME — A military court on Wednesday ordered a former Nazi convicted of a wartime massacre to serve out his life sentence under house arrest in the town where Popear lind in spends his summer vacage tion.

The court's decision to transfer into India's military inclear house arrest in the town where Popear lind in a muclear house arrest in the town where Popear lind in a military into a musing home in Castel Gandolfo, in the option open south of Rome, drew criticism from the town's mayor and residents a market previous government town's mayor and residents a muclear previous government town's mayor and residents a muclear previous government town's mayor and residents a muclear previous government of popear and serenity. town of peace and serenity."

On March 7, a military appeals of court sentenced Mr. Hass to life in prison for his role in the 1944 mas. sacre of 335 civilians at the Ardeatine Caves during the German is a second and deatine Caves during the German is occupation of Rome. The verdicts overturned that of a lower count, which sentenced Mr. Hass to 10 c which sentenced Mr. Hass to 10 c well program to developers 8 months but freed him under the United States a long-standing amnesty.

(AP)

## Cyprus Holds Firm On Plan for Missiles

ATHENS - Cyprus will push: ahead with the deployment of a Rus- 4 sian-made anti-aircraft system that has infuriated Turkey, the Cypriot Yannakis : defense minister, Omirou, said.

"Everything is being done and will continue to be done to ensure. these missiles are effective and operational," Mr. Omirou told the Greek newspaper Exoussia. Mr. of Omirou, who is due in Athens on a Thursday for talks with his Greek counterpart, Akis Tsohatzopoulos, called the Russian-made S-300 ground-to-air missile system "indis-

pensable" to Cyprus's defense.

The Greek Cypriot government has said that it will take delivery of ... the missiles this fall. Turkey and Turkish-Cypriot leaders have condemned the plan, saying the missiles are capable of hitting targets in : southern Turkey.

### Turk Army Bristles

ANKARA — The Turkish military, embroiled in a dispute with Prime Minister Mesut-Yılmaz over who should combat Islamist activism, declared Wednesday that it had a duty to protect the nation's secular order.

The Anatolian News Agency quoted Erol Ozkasnak, a senior general, as saying that the armed forces were "the undaunted guards of the secularist Turkish republic." Mr. Yilmaz has accused military commanders of seeking political gain

from a campaign against Islamists. A dozen government and opposition deputies called for a debate in Parliament on the assertion that the army is putting pressure on Mr. Yilmaz's conservative-led government to take a harder line against Islamic (Reuters)

## NATO Debate Opens

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Senate has unexpectedly opened de-bate on expanding the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, one of the most important foreign policy issues in decades.

The debate started Tuesday afternoon when Senator rent Lott of Mississippi, the majority leader, altered the Senate schedule at the last minute and called for opening statements on the resolution to add Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic to NATO.

A dispute over federal judgeships and the threat of a Democratic filibuster had halted floor action on a Republican-sponsored education bill, leaving Mr. Lott casting about for something to fill the time until the tangle could resolved. The NATO resolution was available. (NYT)

# LABOR: French and Italian Bosses Say No apparently after charged that any He did not also warned that any He did not also warn

the 35-hour workweek within 10 days. But commentators noted that it was rare in Italy for such an important and controversial measure to go ahead unless there has been an agreement among the government, trade unions and the business community

The demand by Mr. Seilliere, the French employers' leader, comes ahead of the proposed law's second reading in the National Assembly. In his letter, he told Mr. Jospin that because of the costs and the complexity of the current legislation, it would be "practically impossible" for companies to introduce the 35-hour week by the year 2000.

The French business leader also stressed that a large majority of French companies were "vigorously opposed to a general reduction on a fixed date in the legal working week to 35 hours." He said the move would undermine company efficiency and competitiveness and would fail to create jobs.

Proponents of legislation that would force a reduction of the working week argue that it will create more jobs because companies will have to hire more workers. They also argue that a 35-hour week will create better productivity among workers. Critics of the idea say that companies will not hire more workweek, but will suffer increased labor overtime.

Some business leaders and many

result of the laws, and thus unemploy hour Aircraft Vorus ment will rise, not fall. "I find this worrying," said Julian Jessop, a senior economist at Nikko Europe in London. Most people accept that increased labor flexibility is needed to reduce unemployment. Now the Italians are following the bad French example of re-ducing labor market flexibility."

Mr. lessop said the plans with the law in Italy were "ironic be cause just at the time when Italy is about the law in Italy were "ironic be cause just at the time when Italy is about the law in Italy were "ironic be law in Italy in Italy were "ironic be law in Italy in Italy were "ironic be law in Mr. Jessop said the plans to go ahead cause just at the time when Italy is according to benefit from monetary union, they formosa Airlines Saab 341 of with eight passengers and said the measure would "make it less of citals said. Flight B-12253" said the measure would "make it iess a city on the northwest the attractive for firms to locate in Italy just a city on the northwest to at the time when EMU should be making at the time when EMU should be making a city on the northwest to a the time when EMU should be making a city on the northwest to a city of city on the city of city on the northwest to a city of city of city on the city of city on the city of city of city of city on the city of city of city of city on the city of city of city of city on the city of cit

said that, in France, this is clearly the most explicit opposition to the government explicit opposition to the government explicit opposition to the government of the second second that we have seen so Ken Wattret, an economist at Paribas. far." But he noted that it was unlikely that Mr. Jospin would back down since the 35-hour week was "an explicit promise by the Socialists in last year's election campaign."

Mr. Wattret recalled that in Italy the reduced workweek was part of a series of promises made in October by Mr. Prodi to the far-left Refounded Communist Party, which had threatened to topple the government. "The Prodi government seems committed to the measure, but how deep that commitment runs is hard

# Mixed Nu

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of past coupled develope got provided a strikmerpan to the main the national agenda policy of India sate make that was rein a news conference option : al Bihari Vaipayee. of the Hindu nationmanya Janata Party. telingence as to be sworn in as minister Thursday warhends

as 50 years of indeat that the Hindu nais have headed the nompromise with 14 parties that have he Hindu nationalists ing coalinon, the new and's agenda omitted h everything in the (AFP) - monalists program les caused anxiety that one

> instance, the agendamelude the nationlongtime goal of dethe state of Janumu

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BNEVA — South Korean negoties & Korean counterparts Wednesday as to deal only with the United San

# hkarta Expels Ameri

AKARTA — An American report ing accused Indonesia of human re beal because it did not fall park

pared from radar screens over the stay night, two minutes and the private TVBS news station as boat, had found the writing reports that rwo does not report that rwo does not respect to the station of t

blaning Prime Minister Chian for the economic crisis and the former Prime Minister Chicolal apposition, said the government of though on promises it makes

PAKISTAN POISED FOR PROGRESS E-Mail, boipak \$ sp compol com bopr@isb.comsats.net.pk

tempt for centuries, which they said had made the ground fertile for the worst incarnation of anti-Semitism.

VATICAN CITY - Pope John Paul

II, in his first public comment after many

Jews criticized a landmark Vatican doc-

ument on the Holocaust, said Wednes-

Catholic dialogue would continue in

ligious dialogue will continue in a cli-

the Pope said in English at his general

The Pope, 77, was addressing a joint American Catholic-Jewish delegation

His comments were his first in public

on Catholic-Jewish relations since the

document, "We Remember, a Reflec-:

tion on the Shoah," was issued on Mon-

The document was an apology and "mea culpa" for individual Catholics

who failed to help Jews persecuted by

the Nazis. But it fell far short of sat-

isfying most Jews, many of whom said

It left Jews bitter and divided on the

Catholicism. Some called it a step back-

Jews were particularly angered that

They were also critical of what they

the document defended Pope Pius XII

against accusations he did not do all he

said was the failure to address the

Board of Investment intends to appoint an international PR Agency which can assist in Image Enhancement and Promotion of

Pakistan as a land of incredible business potential, welcomes foreign investment through 'one window' operation in a deregulated

Being a gateway to Central Asian Republics and having access to the Middle East, Palastan provides a consumer market of over 200

million. Besides excellent incentives, it offers inexpensive skilled labour and raw material in a safe, secure and investor-friendly atmosphere

meetings with them

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turnigh post and electronic media.

economic where investors can own 100% equity with the facility of full repairmation of capital and dividend.

The PR Agency will have to take charge of the following:

planning and production of advertising and promououal material

country along with its stance on international and regional issues

media monitoring and communication of its feedback to BOI

placement of articles/write-ups about Pakistan in the US media

identification and arrangement of select speaking opportunities

tor key Pakastan leaders before decision opinion making

\* assumice of soft clarifications of negative stones in the media

generation and maintenance of positive image of Palostan

amongst international business and political communities

assistance of BOI for preparation of lavorable articles and

arrangement of their publication in leading newspapers and

projection of Pakistan's strong points as an investor friendly

might have to stop the Holocaust.

the document was too little, too late.

that visited Israel and Rome.

mate of renewed openness and trust,"

of Mr. Papon twice in 1943, describing day that he hoped the Jewish-Roman years, could continue.

audience.

Connection .....

identification of potential international investors interested to

invest in Pakistan and having joint ventures with Pakistani

businessmen and entrepreneurs, and arranging business

highlighting of investment flows into Pakistan, priority areas

and success stones of multinational companies operating in-

Palasten by drawing comparative advantages differed by Palastan

arrangement of pre-event, event and post event publicatiof the

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investment Conferences, Seminars and other happenings

church's preaching of anti-Jewish con-A conference of European rabbis in

occupation of his native Poland, has with the Holocaust." "I hope and pray that our inter-re- made improving relations with Jews a He was the first Pope to visit the sites significance of this declaration as a first

A LIGHT MOMENT — Prime Minister Lionel Jospin of France, left, sharing a joke Wednesday with

Finance Minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn and the government's spokesman, Catherine Trautmann,

after a meeting. A slight reshuffle of the French cabinet is expected within two weeks, officials said.

Pope Calls for More Dialogue With Jews

keen that differences over the document

could be overcome quickly so a dialogue

Vatican sources said the Pope was conceded that it was a "first step,"

of concentration camps, the first to enter and preach in a synagogue, and he guided the Vatican to diplomatic relations with Israel. Only a handful of Jews have directly

criticized the Pope over the 14-page document, which was written by the Vatican's Commission for Religious Relations with Jews. Some, including Tullia Zevi, pres-

ident of Italy's Jewish communities, said the document showed that the Pope was perhaps more advanced that his aides. 'I think you detect the fact that the Pope is more advanced than the Curia,

just like some national Catholic bishops conferences are more advanced than others," Miss Zevi said. The Curia is the effect it may have on their relations with central Vatican administration. She was referring to a statement last September by French bishops, who apol-

ogized to Jews for the church's silence about the deportation of 76,000 Jews from France to Nazi death camps.

#### ■ Europe Rabbis See 'First Step'

Prague said Wednesday that it was disappointed by the Vatican's statement on the church's role in the Holocaust, but

# **Fraud Menaces** Armenia Vote, **Observers Say** The Associated Press

Agence France-Presse reported.

step in the right direction.'

the declaration.

One of the conference participants,

Alain Goldman, a high-ranking rabbi in

Paris, said that "it was never too late"

for church officials to "make good" on

YEREVAN, Armenia - Serious voting violations marred the presidential elections in Armenia and could invalidate the final result if they are repeated in the runoff, international monitors said Wednesday.
Prime Minister Robert Kocharian and

Karen Demirchian, the country's Soviet-

era Communist Party boss, received the most votes in the election Monday and face a runoff on March 30. With 93 percent of the vote counted Wednesday Mr. Kocharian had 39 percent and Mr. Demirchian had 32 percent. Ten other candidates took part, but none won above 12 percent of the vote. Election fraud is a volatile issue in

Armenia. In the last presidential election, in 1996, riots broke out after it appeared that the ballot had been rigged to re-elect Levon Ter-Petrossian. Mr. Ter-Petrossian resigned in February.

International monitors said violations appeared to be smaller and uncoordinated this time, but that the voting process still fell short of Western standards.

The largest group of observers, from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, reported "significant violations" in 15 percent of precincts, including ballot box-stuffing and the presence of undercover government agents in polling stations. But the delegation's chief, Sam

Brown, said the top two candidates polled so much higher than the rest of the field that the violations could not have affected the outcome. Still, if problems persist in a close runoff, he warned, "it would be impossible to judge the outcome."

Some Armenians predicted that the impulse to cheat would be stronger in the runoff. "We don't have a very democratic country, "said Olga Ipekdjian, 23, a technician. "In the first round maybe the violations weren't so bad but in the second round I think they will be worse.'

The race has stirred significant inerest here, with the public eager for a ers to compensate for a shorter workleader to rebuild the economy and resolve the stalemate over Nagorno-Kara- costs because of the need to pay more bakh, a separatist region of Azerbaijan that is home to ethnic Armenians.

Apart from an assemble k Vajpavee headed in velop - h missiles soll be the first time al weape

By de festo de duct bat Aides to and among lowergrai distr Inche ago plesse de one sella findus who have been

utimir, the country's

# lessing North Koren

thous for direct peace talks. he North Koreans indicated their w t "but exactly what that means, smofficial speaking on condition One, which is leading this week's to lated States and North and South and south and delegations for a closed season he man aim of the talks is in draft at teat, to replace the armistice of the war. The North has refused to

ar 18 as deported Wednesday after really, the authorities said. he reporter, Allan Nairn, was the said the United States was the Fin violation of a congression Tained troops, he said, were men s mi accused of torrure.

economists have also warned that any He did not elaborate.

haugurated only Monday

M/)K Thailand's man of a ho-confidence debate in Parts

n months ago. anyalit resigned in November at the pressure from the public by an partners n partners after Thailand phine

the primary cause of the crises tem in government, from 1992 le linancial system was tawanne

# A Mixed Nuclear Message

# New Indian Government Ambiguous on Arms

By John F. Burns New York Times Service

NEW DELHI - India's new Hindu nationalist govemment released an agenda Wednesday saying that it would "induct nuclear seapons" into India's milmary arsenal, then almost im- forces, which are mostly would be that the new govmediately qualified its position by saying that it planned to "keep the option open" much as previous governmuch as previous govern-ments have done with an un-of India, we will take all necdeclared nuclear weapons program over the past 25

The ambiguous declara-tions on nuclear policy appeared likely to set off a new round of anxiety about a nulear arms race between India and Pakistan, which has its own covert program to develop nuclear weapons. In recent years, the United States

ing counterpart to the main development program with a option will be exercised." thrust of the "national agenda for governance" that was released at a news conference by Atal Bihari Vajpayee, leader of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, who was to be sworn in as stockpiled about 100 nuclear prime minister Thursday warheads and could rapidly morning. Apart from an assemble more. It has also abortive 13-day government undertaken programs to dethat Mr. Vajpayee headed in velop two nuclear-capable 1996, it will be the first time missiles, a short-range facticin India's 50 years of inde-pendence that the Hindu na-could be used against fionalists have headed the

In a compromise with 14 smaller parties that have joined the Hindu nationalists in a ruling coalition, the new government's agenda omitted virtually everything in the Hindu nationalists' program that has caused anxiety among India's 120 million Muslims and among lowercaste Hindus who have been suspicious of the upper-caste brigins of Hindu national-

For instance, the agenda did not include the nationalists' longtime goal of depriving the state of Jammu and Kashmir, the country's government would clear the

only Muslim-majority state, way for decisions on financof its special status under In- ing the nuclear programs, pardia's constitution.

ticularly development of the

Agni missile, which was sus-

pended in the mid-1990s be-

cause of technical problems

Another, the analysts said,

on any renewed American at-

tempt to draw India into sign-

ing nuclear arms control

treaties such as the Compre-

hensive Test Ban Treaty,

government may not abandon the old policy, which had the

When he was asked about

and pressure from Washing-

But the conciliatory approach did not extend to the nuclear weapons issue, or to a wider commitment to improve morale and combat ef- ton fectiveness in India's armed equipped with aging Soviet emment could close the door military equipment.

"To ensure the security, essary steps and exercise all valiable options," the which New Delhi refused to genda said. "Towards that sign in 1996.

But at his news conference, available \* end we will re-evaluate the nuclear policy and exercise Mr. Vajpayee hinted that the the option to induct nuclear

The pledge to make India a advantage of keeping poten-declared nuclear weapons tial adversaries like Pakistan state has been a long-standing and China guessing about Inpart of Hindu nationalist doc- dia's nuclear capacity. trine. Political debate here has has made strenuous efforts to persuade the two countries to lediminate their nuclear arsenals.

The commitment on nuclear weapons provided a strik-rounded declared on whether the "time frame" for adding nuclear weapons to the Indian having the weapons or stick with the ambivalent approach of past decades. This has frame. We are keeping the opcompany and if need be that policy of saying publicly that india intends to keep open the option of building the

weapons. According to Western intelligence estimates, India has Pakistan, and a longer-range missile known as Agni that

could hit targets in China. By declaring in its manifesto that it intends to "induct" nuclear weapons, the new government appeared to be serving several goals. Aides to Mr. Vajpayee said that one of these was purely domestic.

"This is one nationalist goal that almost everybody in India agrees on, and it will please our own supporters," one aide said.

Indian defense analysts said the declaration would have other advantages. One would be that the Vajpayee



Atal Bihari Vaypayee in New Delhi on Wednesday.

# New Stepin Prince's Return?

Ranariddh Convicted, but Pardon Is Still Up in Air

The Associated Press
PHNOM PENH — A deposed in the liminister of Cambodia was found guilty on Wednesday of conspiring with Khmer Rouge guerrillas to overthrow the government and

was sentenced to 30 years in prison.

Prince Norodom Ranariddh has been in exile since he was ousted in a comp in July by his rival co-prime minister, Hun Sen. The trial was both an attempt by Mr. Hun Sen to discredit his former colleague and part of a diplomatic effort to allow Prince Rangriddh to return to Cambodia to contest elections July 26.

But diplomats said they feared that an un-expected \$54 million fine leveled by the judge against Prince Ranaviddh and three co-defendants could become a stumbling block to the prince's return. The prince has denied all the charges and called the proceedings illegal.

Prince Ranariddh's conviction was a foregone conclusion because the court is controlled by Mr. Hun Sen. The prince and three of his aides were all tried in absentia.

The proceedings are part a Japanese-brokered settlement aimed at saving face on both sides. It outlines a plan whereby Prince Ranariddh, now that he has been convicted, would seek a royal pardon from his father, King Norodom Sihanouk, paving the way for his return to Cambodia. But the pardon is still very much up in the air.

sister, Princess Buppha Devi, was preparing pillaging was done by Hun Sen's soldiers.

an amnesty request on behalf of the prince.
Prince Ranariddh has refused to seek the pardon himself, saying it would amount to an admission of guilt King Sihanouk, meanwhale, says he will grant the amnesty only if Mr. Hun Sen says in writing he would favor it. Mr. Hun Sen has been ambivalent.

Mr. Hun Sen has called elections to legifimize his power and win back foreign aid that was cut off after his takeover. The infemational community has indicated that the prince's return and participation would be necessary components of free and fair elections. But the longer Prince Ranariddh's return is delayed, the less likely he will be able to run a

competitive campaign.

The trial on Wednesday concluded shortly after convening for the second day at a heavily guarded lecture hall at the Defense Ministry. parade of witnesses, including Prince Ranariddh's former military adviser, testified Tuesday that the prince was plotting to oust Mr. Hun Sen by enlisting the aid of Khmer

Rouge guerrillas. The proceedings had many of the char-

acteristics of a show trial. For example, a dead man, Chao Sambath, an aide to Prince Ranariddh who was killed by Hun Sen's troops during the coup - was among those sentenced.

Also, the court fined the four defendants Vibol Kong, the prince's deputy cabinet \$54 million for damages to businesses caused director, said in Bangkok that the prince's by looting during the coup—even though the

#### BRIEFLY

# Pressing North Korea to Talk

GENEVA — South Korean negotiators asked their North Korean counterparts Wednesday to spell out their conditions for direct peace talks.

The North Koreans indicated their willingness to have talks, "but exactly what that means, exactly when, how, that sort of thing' remains to be determined, said a South Korean official, speaking on condition of anonymity. China, which is leading this week's four-way talks with

the United States and North and South Korea, called in the heads of delegations for a closed session Wednesday. The main aim of the talks is to draw up a permanent peace treaty to replace the armistice ending the 1950-53 Korean War. The North has refused to talk to the Seoul government, which it describes as a U.S. puppet, saying it

## Jakarta Expels American Critic

wants to deal only with the United States.

JAKARTA — An American reporter and activist who has long accused Indonesia of human rights abuses in East Timor was deported Wednesday after entering the country illegally, the authorities said.

The reporter, Allan Nairn, was put on a flight to Singapore one day after giving a news conference in which he said the United States was training Indonesian troops in violation of a congressional ban. Among the U.S.-trained troops, he said, were members of a special forces unit accused of torture.

American officials, however, said the training program was legal because it did not fall under a 1992 statute barring Indonesian troops from a U.S. course for foreign soldiers.

Banned from Indonesia since 1992, Mr. Naim entered the country "apparently after changing his passport," said Naina Akhmadsyah, spokesman for the Information Ministry. He did not elaborate.

#### Taiwan Aircraft Vanishes

TAIPEI — A passenger plane carrying 13 people disappeared from radar screens over the Taiwan Strait on Wednesday night, two minutes after taking off for a domestic flight, airport officials said.

The private TVBS news station later reported that rescue boats had found the wreckage, and that it had unconfirmed reports that two dead bodies had been recovered. Rescue officials said they could not confirm

The Formosa Airlines Saab 340 disappeared after taking off with eight passengers and five crew members; aboard, officials said. Flight B-12255 was heading from Hsinchu, a city on the northwest coast about 80 kilometers from Taipei, to Kaohsiung in the south, on a route inaugurated only Monday. (AP, Reuters)

### Thai Opposition Tries Ouster

BANGKOK — Thailand's main opposition party opened a no-confidence debate in Parliament on Wednesday, blaming Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai's government for the economic crisis and accusing it of corruption. Former Prime Minister Chaovalit Yongchaiyut, now in opposition, said the government had failed to follow through on promises it made when it came to power four months ago.

Mr. Chaovalit resigned in November after I I months in office under pressure from the public, businessmen and his coalition partners after Thailand plunged into its worst

economic crisis in decades. He said the primary cause of the crisis was Mr. Chuan's previous term in government, from 1992 to 1995, during which the financial system was revamped. (Reuters)

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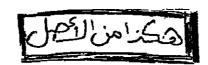
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# A Start by the Vatican

At the direction of Pope John Paul II, the Vatican has labored for 11 years to address its behavior during the Holocaust. That study now yields a carefully crafted statement that goes further than the Roman Catholic Church has ever gone in reckoning honestly with its passivity during the Nazi era and its historic antipathy toward Jews.

This breaking of new political and theological ground by the Vatican is important and welcome. Yet the document disappointingly stops well short of the unflinching acknowledgments of responsibility that Catholic bishops in France and other European countries have produced in recent years.

The gap was probably unavoidable, given the Vatican's institutional interests and caution. Still, the church's statement, "We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah," is a sobering and moving call to penitence and a denunciation of anti-Semitism and the Holocaust. Those are no small steps for the Vatican, clearly reflecting healthy introspection by the church. In parts of the world where Catholic anti-Semitism lingers, the Vatican document will be a powerful tool of tolerance.

The church's attitude toward Jews began to change three and a half de-cades ago under Pope John XXIII. But John Paul II has made good relations with Jews a theme of his papacy. He has visited former concentration camps and meets with local Jewish leaders when he travels. He established

critical look at the Catholic response to the Holocaust and has defended the silence of Pope Pius XII during the Third Reich. The Vatican document concludes that the church teachings, though often hostile to Jews, did not contribute to the crude anti-Semitic ideology of the Nazis, many of whose leaders were Catholics and whom the

tion Pius's failure to speak out against Nazi atrocities. Instead it offers evidence of church efforts to save Jews and recalls the thanks Pius received from Jewish leaders. It is regrettable that the Vatican has not yet found the courage to discard this defensive, incomplete depiction.

A full exploration of Pius's conduct

# Don't Coddle Rangoon

report this year, Burma's opium and beroin production doubled after the current dictators took power in a 1988 coup, and it has remained stable ever since. Burma is now the major global supplier of opium and beroin, accounting for more than half of world supplies, and it produces enough "to satisfy the U.S. heroin market many times over," the report states. "Overall, the Burmese drug control situation remained bleak during 1997."

· The report does not confine its remarks to officials in outlying areas. "The government systematically encouraged leading drug traffickers to invest in infrastructure and other domestic projects," it says.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright was even more direct last summer. "Burma is also the only member of ASEAN where the government protects and profits from the drug trade. she said. "In fact, Burma's top traffickers have become leading investors in its economy and leading lights in its new political order.

Even setting moral issues aside, an gagement" with such a regime and attempts to burnish its image constitute

Varican calls "neo-pagan." The document does not even men-

is needed. He did not encourage Catholics to defy Nazi orders. Church officials after the war helped Nazis escape to freedom. Pius's supporters argue that speaking out would have accomplished little and impeded Vatican efforts to save Jews. Critics contend that his silence was a form of collaboration, inspired by anti-communism and the church's anti-Jewish traditions.

It falls to John Paul and his successors to take the next step toward full acceptance of the Vatican's failure to stand squarely against the evil that swept across Europe. With its repudiation of anti-Semitism, the new document provides a useful starting point. —THE NEW YORK TIMES.

# According to a State Department an effective anti-drug strategy. It is true

that sanctions and diplomatic isolation are blunt diplomatic tools that work only sometimes. Burma represents an unusual case. in part because it is run by a dictatorship but - unlike Indonésia, say, or China - already has a legitimate democratic leader. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, daughter of Burma's postcolonial independence hero, heads a party that won in a landslide in a 1990 election. Burma's dictators have kept her under house arrest ever since, refusing to

honor the election results. She has the support of many ethnically non-Burmese tribes, which have battled the central government for decades but say they accept her vision of democratic federalism. The current regime, by contrast, has bought peace with many of these insurgencies only by allowing them to grow and sell heroin unhindered.

Burma's ruling regime, corrupt by birth and dependent on drug money for survival, cannot satisfy U.S. hopes for meaningful efforts against heroin. The best counternarcotics strategy is to truly believe in the rule of law.

-THE WASHINGTON POST.

# An Irish Deadline

The parties negotiating peace in Northern Ireland have been in Washington this week. They are due to resume formal negotiations next Monday, and have only until about Easter, April 12, to reach an agreement on a peace plan that can be put to British and Irish voters in May.

President Bill Clinton is planning to cajole, wheedle, beg and threaten all sides to get down to business. His suasion is sorely needed. So far the parties have mainly postured. Only the British and Irish governments seem to realize that the time remaining for peace can be measured in days.

Sinn Fein, the political wing of the Irish Republican Army, was excluded from the talks after the IRA was blamed for a bombing that killed two civilians in February. It is likely to return to the negotiating table on Monday. Sinn Fein and the Protestant parties linked to paramilitary groups must understand that further violence will destroy both the talks and their own reputations.

Sinn Fein has shown the leadership to begin to prepare its constituency for compromise. A week ago its president, Gerry Adams, offered the party's first written acknowledgment that the talks would not produce the nationalist movement's longtime goal of a united Ireland. He wrote in a Dublin newspaper that while Sinn Fein would continue to pursue unity by peaceful means. the talks could produce useful interim

measures improving life for Catholics. His list includes a bill of rights, fair employment, release of prisoners, a new police force and, most controversially, a strong governing body made up-of Northern Irish and Irish Republic politicians to oversee most of it.

Unionists must persuade their own voters that peace will require change and compromise. David Trimble, who leads Northern Ireland's largest party, the Ulster Unionists, has not yet begun this work. He has declined to speak directly to Sinn Fein negotiators in the talks, and his party's written proposals have often seemed perfunctory.

The next month will probably see an escalation in violence as desperate fringe groups make a last effort to sabotage peace. But just as the two governments cannot allow the bombers a veto, neither can the parties let their hard-line constituents set their negotiating positions.

The people are eager for peace. Ian Paisley, leader of a Protestant party opposed to the talks, is drawing minuscule audiences to his rallies blasting the negotiators. A group of business. labor and community leaders recently formed an organization called "New Agenda" to push the politicians to-ward compromise. Polis show that Northern Irish citizens have little faith that their politicians will make peace. The negotiators will have three weeks to prove them wrong.

- THE NEW YORK TIMES.

# Herald Cribune

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# NATO Is in Transition, So Why Not Talk About It? VASHINGTON—The U.S. Senate is moving in haste toward a nactic vote on NATO— By Jim Heagland and Poland. An acception of the composition of the compositi

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Sen-ate is moving in haste toward a climactic vote on NATO expansion, a Clinton administration's approach to the world as one of strategic promis-cuity and impulse. The Senate should not join in that approach.

Foreign policy is the grand abstraction of American presidents. They strive to bargain big, or not at all, on the world stage. They are more free there than they are at home to dream, to emote, to rise or fall on principled positions, or to stab others in the back. U.S. presidents treat foreign policy

as the realm in which they express their essence and personality most directly. Think, in a word or two, of recent presidents and foreign policy in their day — Johnson, overreaching, Nixon, paranoid; Carter, delusionally trusting; Reagan, sunnily simplistic; Bush, prudent technician.

NATO expansion is the Clintonites most vaunted contribution to diplomacy, and they characteristically assert that they can have it all, when they want, without paying any price. Do it, the president told the Senate leadership

foreign policy initiative that defines the immediate vote, and others will later clean up messy strategic details such as the mission an expanded NATO will have and who else may join.

> istrations advance: Trust us, this will turn out all right. Russians will learn that NATO expansion is good for them. The French will not use expansion to dilute U.S. influence over Europe. This will cost American taxpayers only a penny or two a day. And so on, on a number of debatable points which I think will work out quite differently

> But there is also a familiarity of style here distinctive to this president and those closest to him. And why not? Life is not neatly compartmentalized. The all-embracing, frantic, gargantnan life-style that has allowed other affairs of state (the Lewinsky, Willey, Jones al-legations) to become the talk of the world, justifiably or otherwise, also

> The White House is urging the Sen-ate to amend the NATO charter to

senators for extended discussion.

It is an argument that all adminthan the administration claims.

surfaces in major policy matters.

on Monday in a letter asking for an admit the Czech Republic, Hungary

a few days, despite appeals from 16

Bill Clinton opposes any more de-bate, even though be has not addressed the public on this historic step and there is no consensus in the United States or within the 16-member alliance on the strategic mission of an expanded NATO or on its membership.

NATO will not be reached until April next year. It is to be unveiled at a 50th. anniversary summit in Washington.

When Secretary of State Madeleine Albright recently said in Brussels that NATO would evolve into "a force for peace from the Middle East to Central Africa," European foreign ministers quickly signaled opposition to a radical expansion of the alliance's geographical area of responsibility.

And Mrs. Albright's deputy, Strobe Talbott, surprised some European ambassadors last week when he gave a ringing endorsement to the possibility of eventual Russian membership in NATO. This is an idea that divides member governments and has not

most arduous transitions in history, Mr. Talbott said in response to a question asked at a symposium at the British Embassy in Washington. He said Mr. Clinton strongly supported the view

that "no emerging democracy shouldbe excluded because of size, geopolitical situation or historical experience." That "goes for very small states. A new "strategic concept" for such as the Baltics, and it goes for the very largest, that is, for Russia.'

It is a message that Mr. Clinton has given Boris Yeltsin in their private meetings, Mr. Talbott emphasized. "This is a classic case of never saying

never." Mr. Talbott continued. "If the day comes when this happens, it will be a very different Russia, a very different Europe and a very different NATO."

How different, and in what ways, is worth discussing before the fact. The Clinton administration has not taken seriously its responsibility to think through the consequences of its NATO initiative, and to explain them to the American people. The Senate needs an extended debate, not a hasty vote." The Washington Post.

# Illusions and No Winners in the Indonesia-IMF Duel

By Philip Bowring

HONG KONG—In the best of circumstances, finding a way out of Indonesia's problems would tax the world's wisest. The actual circumstances are that the two key players, President Suharto and the IMF, are both in denial of reality. It is President Suharto who may have the stronger grasp of the economic dynamics

He remains firmly in denial of the contribution of his continuation in office and stubborn resistance to changing the system. That is natural, but is the stuff of tragedy, of a lifetime achievement undone by a fatal flaw.

After a quarter-century of success, it is natural to assume that you are key to solution of the problem, not cause of it. The need for a clear succession, and for redistribution of the spoils

OXFORD, England — The word "security" has

traveled a long way in its de-

rivation from Latin. Its root,

sine cura, means "without

care." Today security has a

dual aspect, the material and the

The relevance of this distinc-

Palestinian Authority, in the oc-

cupied territories or as Israeli

Arabs, is clear. There is a ma-

terial aspect of necessary se-

curity, in national defense and

in measures designed to stop

assassination or the planting of

bombs. There is also the psy-

We all want to feel secure,

So the concept of security

becomes a lever of manipula-

tion. Probably no one under-

stands this better than Benjamin

When The Washington

Star folded in 1981, it was

hard for me to find another

job. I got a little desperate. Finally I was offered a fine job

at a magazine. One of its ed-

itors made the offer over din-

ner at a Washington hotel

got ready to leave, this nice,

attractive and happily married

editor looked at me and said.

"Stay." The room reeled. I stammered something about

meeting my boyfriend to cel-

ebrate my new job.
"Call him," the editor in-

structed, pushing a quarter

Feeling dizzy, I explained

that I couldn't reach him,

thanked the editor and rushed

out of the botel. When I got

was furious. I didn't know if I

still had the job. Or what the

job really entailed. I had come

to him out of need, and he

responded with an altogether

I wanted to throw the job

back in his face, but I knew I

would not get another one that

good. After agonizing all

Monday. The editor was pro-

fessional and encouraging. He

Kathleen Willey came for-

ward to tell their stories about

sexual harassment, their critics

yelped that these women were

would have stayed on pleasant

terms with men who had acted

so crudely. How could they

have continued to work with, putting up with immature and

When Anita Hill and now

later apologized.

weekend, I showed up on

different need of his own.

out on the street, I screamed, I

across the table.

At the end of dinner, as I

where he was staying.

and we will accept almost any-

thing in the name of security.

tion to Israel and to Palestin- there is a good chance that Shi-

ians, whether living under the mon Peres would have been

psychological.

chological aspect.

Indonesians, but it is hard to make people believe what they do not want to believe. Precisely the same applies to the IMF, which has now, for

good reason, become shorthand for Western economic and political interests in general. The IMF is in denial of the reality that even in the very best of scenarios from now on, Western, Japanese and other banks are going to have to make huge write-offs of Indonesian private debt. One is not here talking of a billion or two dollars, but of tens of billions.

Instead of facing this reality, the IMF promotes the illusion that it has a solution to Indonesia's woes. Its prescribed policy

for worries about security.

There is little doubt that

elected if a Palestinian had not

blown up a bus.

enough to outsiders as to many remove trade distortions will beof benefit in the long run, but it is fooling itself if it believes that such things will quickly restore private sector confidence. In the short term, they could even make life more difficult for important parts of the commercial sector. The IMF's reform-linked in-

jections of a few billion dollars to stabilize the exchange rate would give a short-term boost is still small relative to the size of foreign debt, and to the desire of anyone with access to foreign exchange to hoard it, or send it to Singapore or Switzerland.

Nor will a sudden doubling of the rupiah's value do much to resolve foreign bankers' problems. Of the dollars borrowed

to provide security.

Any ordinary person must

both sides. Such cooperation

has taken place, and both sides

enlisted the assistance of the

CIA. Before the last election.

Israeli sources said the cooper-

haps a quarter has been lost by poor investment in unneeded office towers and power stations. Another quarter may have simply been transformed into flight capital — in the same way as Latin American borrowings in the '80s financed flight capital that did not return for a decade, if at all. It is now impossible to sta-

bilize the Indonesian situation without foreign debt write-offs on a scale at least equal to the to the rupiah. But a few billion Brady treatment for the Latin crisis. The IMF refuses to acknowledge this obvious truth. To do so would force foreign banks to recognize nonperforming loans — a reform being urged on Indonesia but evaded by some Western banks.

Recognition of reality would also lay the IMF open to ac-

the occupation can remain.....

Gaza, under the Oslo agree-

With a permit, a Gaza citizen

Citizens of Gaza cannot travel

without any attempt to arrest

are not absolutely in order?

and "private banking" manage, sett and the virtual ment of the ill-gotten gains.

when it comes to the minutiae of skares a vacuum in economics, of the rights and salamcan manipulate wrongs of currency boards, but amount community. wrongs of currency boards, but, and a potentially branch a canny peasant's uniques a potentially branch developing that if some In the developing that it is not the developing that it is not the developing the developing that it is not the developing derstanding that if some In., at dangerous situdonesians (not the government) mause Saddam Husowe billions to foreigners, it is must the strongman in the foreigners who have the porld and a threat to

bluff. If he succeeds, he will get salue of force have after as more money with fewer strings, shanted success in the If he fails, the short-term sim- on years. Even with ation will be destabilizing. In: school and the use of

at least he keeps his dignity. The so in the future.

Indonesia already has the factories, power plants, hotels to disarm fraq acte, built with foreign loans. Of the land of accord can be disregarded and encouraged. But do the bankers, Baghdad in legalty who willfully financed capital, and guaranteed flight deserve sympathy? And Meanwhile, "security as practiced unilaterally by Israelis is a cover for gross inhumanity what should we make of the foreign power companies who entered into cosy deals with influential people and now squeal "foul" and run to their embassies for help when they find Yitzhak Rabin would have been see that material security can ments, is governed by the Palreturned to office had not a Jew- best be achieved by cooperation estinian Authority. But Palesish extremist assassinated him; between the security forces of tinians can go in and out of Gaza only with a permit, and such

permits can be revoked indinot dollars? vidually or collectively at will. Or take the case of Banque may queue for three or four Nationale de Paris. When it acquired part of Peregrine, the Hong Kong investment bank hours, and who cares if a blind girl wanting to visit a sick mother is turned back because her papers that failed because of its Indonesian misadventures, it allowed payment of millions in bonuses to Peregrine directors and many to study at the Palestinian University of Birzeit, near Ramalagers. This deal, severely crit? icized by courts in Hong Kong, was at the expense not of BNP lah. Perhaps it was a would-be student who was killed recently trying to get out of Gaza under but of Peregrine creditors. Indonesians, and others, have the fence. He was shot dead noted this attitude to the rights of

him, so we shall never know. Occupation means repression. It scars the souls of the Indonesians are baffled by occupiers. There are Israelis who know and declare this. Two abiding impressions re-

main from a recent visit to Israel, Palestine and the occupied territories. One is the enduring dignity of Palestinians - doctors, teachers, schoolchildren. ordinary workers. The other is the misplaced dedication of young Israelis whose role willy-nilly is to

carry out police interrogation at the airport. In my case, it took half an hour. What if I had been a Palestinian? The writer, a historian of the

modern Middle East, is an emeritus fellow of St. Cather-ine's College, Oxford. He contributed this comment to the International Tribune.

By appointing a cabinet of 115 policy of pres-cromes, he is calling the IMF's; mas to use force and

anon will be destabilizing. Inflation will soar and discontent, a force against Iraq,
will rise. But they probably a gip on power rewould anyway. IMF solutions, more U.S policy has
to the currency crisis have failed, changed his behavior
twice. Why should they work, meded in removing
next time? By ignoring the IMF. In power and it is unat least he keeps his dignity.

themselves being paid in rupian

creditors and may apply it to a few billion of their own debts.

the abrupt turn in foreign sentiment toward them, particuarly on the part of the IMF and other previously inveterate fawners. Policies and practices, whether good or bad, had not changed. Even Mr. Suharto's fiercest critics are loath to blame him entirely. The IMF brigade Valwan makes it easier for him to take refuge in a nationalist corner, rejecting his internationalist. Anhiguiry About agenda and surrounding himself with friends and relatives.

Ultimately it will not save ms "three-part pack-system, or his family's wealth. To solving cross-strait lieve that has better excuses for living on the primarily to blame future." has better excuses for hving on the former to blame illusions than the IMF or the comen standoff with itary or blanks that are due \$70 billion.

In this duel of denial there are the former those Tai-independent to the former t

### IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Facsimile Device VIENNA — The inventor of

the telectroscope, Herr Szczepanik, will introduce his discovery in the course of the next few days to a select circle of scientific men and journalists. Herr Szczepanik declared today [March 18] that the telectro-scope will make the entire system of telegraphy as it now exists superfluous. The apparatus will show copies of manuscripts and prints at the remotest distances in a moment of time and fix at one stroke facsimiles of the same on a sensitive plate or

1923: War on Betting

sensitive paper.

LONDON - The Nonconformist churches of England have declared war on betting. The Free Church Assembly has passed a resolution declaring that the legal inconsistency of

for gambling while prosecuting defaulters should be abolished Reformers are up against a hard fight, for the races in England attract far more general interest it of democratic insti-States. The craze is particularly strong amongst women.

Assembly called yesterday [March 18] for a drastic cut in the playing time available for American films in France. The motion-picture industry of this country maintains it is being driven into bankruptcy by competition from mass-produced Hollywood films Robert Lacoste, Minister of Commerce, announced that the French government had already asked for revision of the Blum-Byrnes accord, which sets up a fixed ratio between playing time. reserved for French pictures and granting Government facilities that available for foreign films.

Maria in have been the inimentation of the lateness by the with will

artan general Bosen positive step d implemented with in the integration of the La o L'oscom. had sinctions crists is min is evident that

two man to evident that being the crisis has be-entenely difficult for a second states. ment policy question in the state of th in endeame strategy reviable acceleration limited of sanctions and b bornal rehabilitation
bornal must be to norline as much as poswill b the severely and per-

h hnumg Saudarn's grass Saidem Husand rehabilitation. to accompanie that subject around Sadreductance of the inpayers' money to bail out foreign, solonmunity to back bankers who had enjoyed hand after the absence of some profits from sleazy deals; scaled about what and "propose bankers bankers bankers and "propose bankers bankers" Mr. Suharto may flounder the peace process hen it comes to the minutes. Jordan

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nonsense so China; sa che lorget above the lorget lorget above the lorget lor to lorger about the now come of human rights Taiwan alon of religion; igsystematic destrucibetan culture, and from East
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H. Sarah

and a free press in sides of the trolled by 1948: Films in France districte its sover-threateners of the U.S. Tanianal's little to determine the U.S. hije because dis- will be will est from at- forward telf-determination. ure democracy forcing

dection retreat to MALZIEKE Taipei.

package ap and acade awan's sur- long authoritari the United an package aplaiwan's surare several dom of T his proposal. des of struggle mercal.

Luomintane the omintang, the have finally won

In September 1995, Israel and the PLO signed an agreement ation was working well. Palknown as Oslo B, providing, estinian sources still say it works well at ground level, but among other things, for withthat it runs into political difdrawal of Israeli troops from ficulty on the Israeli side. most of the occupied West Bank.

not withdrawn its troops as it should have in 1997. The only justification for this disregard of an internationally

Israel is reported to want to The government of Israel has not end CIA participation. This is not surprising. If we look for arms held by civilians in the occarried out that agreement; it has

Palestinians, Too, Ought to Have Security

By Wilfrid Knapp

Netanyahu. After all, he would said, has not carried out its part

not be prime minister were it not of the agreement because it fails

cupied territories, they are found

mainly in Jewish settlements. endorsed agreement is security. As long as security concerns
The Palestinian Authority, it is can be manipulated, the Oslo

Women's Tolerance Has Limits wormy behavior by men in their personal lives, and in their professional lives. They have

Ms. Lewis lectured about

Now Ms. Lewis, in her role as White House rationalizer, attacks Mrs. Willey's credibility by saying that in 1996, three years after the groping incident in the Oval Office. the former White House volunteer said she admired Mr. Clinton and wanted to raise

stand on principle when the men with power over them

call, write nice notes to or ask favors of Clarence Thomas

By Maureen Dowd

funds for his campaign.

ical and manipulative.

Women cannot always

stumble across the line. Women usually behave in more layered and self-interested ways. These painful nuances of emotion and calculation cannot be captured by the blacks and whites of sexual clearly lying, since they never harassment law --- which can make women look hypocrit-

Women are accustomed to

Easy. Just ask most work-

Ann Lewis, whose skirt Mr. Clinton is hiding behind, doesn't get it anymore. In 1991 she fought conservatives who said Anita Hill's credibility was shot because she had followed Judge Thomas from job to job, and continued calling him.

the mind-set of working girls: You "have this really prestigious and powerful boss and think you have to stay on the right side of him or for the rest of your working life he could

nix another job.

learned, through long years of being subordinated to men in the workplace, to use their wiles and wits to maneuver past eruptions of male libido. Skeptics wonder why Ms. Hill and Mrs. Willey filed no complaints against their tormentors. But if women took action every time a boss made an unwanted pass or an untoward remark, they would be twice injured: first when they are treated like chattel, and again when they lose their bridge to a good job, a good

recommendation and a good The dirty little secret of gender politics is that women are not fools. In learning to sidestep the importunings of men, they have also learned to turn them to their advantage. Anita Hill and Kathleen Willey were prepared to ex-tract the good from the bad,

and make their bosses' libidos

work for them. It's a way of

getting ahead in a world dominated by powerful men. But self-interest, too, has its limits. A woman who is willing to be teased may not be prepared to be degraded. She may tolerate a boss's gaze but not a boss's hands. For women, there is a steadily growing cost in personal dignity for playing the gender game at the office.

When the line is crossed, some women may not only collapse into tears. They may also collapse into television. The New York Tynes

prices are too much to pay.

So, bosses beware. Some

## *OPINION/LETTERS*

# It's Time for America to Prepare An Endgame Plan for Iraq

WASHINGTON — Iraq appears to have been tested successfully in the initial implementation of the agreements supported by the stagnating Arab-Israeli peace agreement negotiated by the international community that process prodded, creating a UN secretary-general with will prevent other Iraqi adnew geopolitical landscape. Saddam Hussein

This is a positive step washington ought to send what is a reasonable price for neovided that the agreement a strong message to Saddam and odoubt that all means will declaring clearly that when a doubt that all means will be used to control him. minishing the integrity of the United Nations Special Commission, or Unscom.

The Iraq sanctions crisis is not over, but it is evident that managing the crisis has become extremely difficult for the United States

The urgent policy question for Washington is how to develop an endgame strategy for the inevitable acceleration of the lifting of sanctions and for the potential rehabilitation of Saddam Hussein.

The goal must be to nor-malize fraq as much as possible while severely and permanently limiting Saddam's dangerous behavior.

Every crisis Saddam Hussein creates contributes to his international rehabilitation. This aura of acceptability that has developed around Saddam; the reluctance of the international community to back the use of force; the absence of a' U.S. strategy about what and monitored militarily. collapse of the U.S.-sponsored Arab-Israeli peace process all this leaves a vacuum in which Saddam can manipulate

the international community. This creates a potentially extremely dangerous situ-ation because Saddam Hussein remains the strongman in the Arab world and a threat to Iraq's neighbors.

The U.S. policy of presstre, threats to use force and occasional use of force have had only limited success in the last seven years. Even with strict sanctions and the use of military force against Iraq, Saddam's grip on power remains strong. U.S. policy has try. neither changed his behavior nor succeeded in removing him from power, and it is un-

likely to do so in the future. What is necessary now is to continue to disarm Irag according to UN sanctions and. at the same time, to politically entangle Baghdad in legally binding and guaranteed

By Jadith Kipper

will prevent other Iraqi ad-

out either politicizing or di- and if Iraq is certified in com- have to be used to control him pliance by Unscom, the United States will be the first from power. to advocate lifting sanctions. But there is a price the Iraqi leader must pay.

Some of the key elements of a U.S.-sponsored package deal that Saddam Hussein cannot be allowed to refuse

 Iraq's signed agreement that any outstanding disputes with Kirwait or any other state will be resolved by peaceful

• An agreement by Iraq of seriously threatened regional nonbelligerency to guarantee Kuwait's sovereignty and territorial integrity and nonin-terference in the internal affairs of its neighbors.

 An agreement that conventional defensive forces in Iraq will be rebuilt only under the close supervision of the international community

• An agreement that Iran will continue to be contained

• A full and permanen peace treaty with Israel. As part of that treaty, Iraq will build a pipeline to the Israeli-Jordanian port of Eilat-Aqaba that will significantly benefit Iraq's economy by providing a much needed route for the export of Iraqi oil.

 An agreement that Iraq will create an international fund for its reconstruction and development with a fixed percentage of Iraqi oil revenues after sanctions are lifted.

 An agreement that Irac will resettle Palestinian refugees from Lebanon as part of the labor force that will be required to rebuild the coun-

who can no longer be allowed to determine the life of the Iraqi people or the future of

Iraq's geopolitical position and its vast oil resources make it one of the most important countries in the Middle East. Its economic development is critical not only for the Iraqi

people but for the region. The reconstruction and development of an Iraq whose leader can never be trusted but who has been tamed would create a much needed economic boom in the area



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### **About Taiwan**

Regarding "Clear Up the Dangerous Ambiguity About Taiwan" (Opinion, March 13) by Joseph S. Nye Jr.: Mr. Nye's three-part pack-

age for solving cross-strait tensions makes it seem that Taiwan is primarily to blame for the current standoff with

Why can't those Taiwanese just forget all this suggests, and is attacked by democratic nonsense so China, say in the year 2007. everybody can get on with making money in China?

And, yes, forget about the Chinese gulag and Beijing's ocally to the defense of suppression of human rights and freedom of religion; ignore the systematic destruction of Tibetan culture, and cast a blind eye on the dismantling of democratic instirutions and a free press in

Mr. Nye suggests that Taiwan sacrifice its sovereignty and right to determine its own future because disaster could result from attempts at self-determination. But then, a mature democracy

could result, too. Mr. Nye's advice deserves vigorous rejection.

RICHARD R. VUYLSTEKE.

The ultimate aim of Mr. Nye's three-part package appears to be Taiwan's surrender to Chinese authoritarifan rule. There are several problems with his proposal. After decades of struggle against the Kuomintang, the Taiwanese have finally won

civil liberties. They will not readily give up their hardwon freedoms. Most Taiwanese do not believe that China's territorial claim to Taiwan has any valid historical or legal basis. They believe that they alone have the right to determine their own future, without outside military or political pressure.

Suppose Taipei forswears independence, as Mr. Nye Can Taipei count on U.S. help? Will the United States now commit itself unequiv-Taiwan? Without such a guarantee, it is difficult to see any merit in Mr. Nye's proposal from Taiwan's perspective.

If Taiwan falls into Chinese hands, the sea-lanes on both sides of the island will be controlled by China. The lifelines of Japan and Korea will be threatened. The credibility of the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty will be severely damaged. The forward deployment strategy in East Asia could collapse, forcing the United States to retreat to Guam and Hawaii. Peace and stability in Asia

could be threatened. The real danger to peace lies in the willingness of American business interests and their allies in government and academia to sacrifice the long-term national security of the United States and the freedom of Taiwan's 21 million people for short-term com-

> JAY T. LOO. Lansdale, Pennsylvania.

mercial profit.

# Dr. Spock's Security Blanket for Parents

 $B^{\, \text{OSTON}\, -\, \text{It was not a book}}_{\, \text{that parents merely read, We}}$ clutched it like a steering wheel. We held on to it like a security blanket through the sleep-deprived terrors of early parenthood.

When the hospital irrationally released the helpless 6-pound infant into our care without demanding to see a parenting degree, a dated driver's license, a passing test score, we had Dr. Spock's index to

The choice must be put clearly in front of him while When we were poised at the fear-Unscom continues its work

Now that the current crisis has been resolved diplomatically, the situation demands of: fear of." that the Clinton administra-When the crying would not stop, tion develop a strategy for the when we had changed, fed, hugged, long-term outcome. This is the only way the United States can hope to protect its

The writer is a Middle East specialist associated with the Council on Foreign Relations. She contributed this comment to the Herald Tribune.

rests in the Middle East.

stability in this vital region.

Iraq would be lessened and the

new geopolitical landscape.

If Saddam refuses to pay

and to ultimately remove him

and before sanctions are lif-

The tension in the area over

By Ellen Goodman

obituaries all reported that his book was our bible. At 50 million copies, it was second to the good book.

diatric patriarch. No deliverer-of-

cling to.
"Newborns: Feelings in the early

ful edge of the first bath, we gripped the spine of this book as tightly as the wobbly head of our newborn and looked it up.
"Bath: In infancy, temperature

rocked, ignored, run through our entire repertoire and dissolved in panic, we still had Dr. Spock. "Crying: From air bubble; from fatigue; from indigestion; hard on

Benjamin Spock made house calls Don't be overawed by what the exday or night. He knew what we were worrying about before we did.

So when he died Sunday at 94, the

But our Dr. Spock was no pe-

#### MEANWHILE

commandments. No unimpeachable authority from on high.

The man who was born at the beginning of the century and died at the end of it bridged the distance from doctor to patient as easily as he did the distance from his 6-foot-4inch height to his smallest patient. "Trust yourself," he wrote in the opening line of the book - a line that survived five decades and as

"You know more than you think you do," he told parents who were raw recruits, no more comfortable with newborns than with landing gear on a 747. "Don't take too seriously what all the neighbors say.

perts say. Don't be afraid to trust your own common sense." It's hard to realize how uncom-

author had grown up in a strict household in a stern era when parents were told to "harden off" their children like tender new shoots for a harsh, cold world.

Today we forget that experts once advised harsh tactics against thumb-sucking, even strapping the offend-ing thumb away from the needy and happy to have them killed in sucking, even strapping the offend-ing thumb away from the needy mouth. A standard guide admonished parents: "Never, never kiss your child. Never hold it on your lap. Never rock its carriage."

Dr. Spock's book was delivered as the first baby boomer left the

Dr. Spock told these parents not only to trust themselves but their children. "The children who are best behaved are those who are treated with respect," he said in a phrase that would be continually twisted many updates, from open adoption into some paean to permissiveness. "Discipline: Based on love; chan-

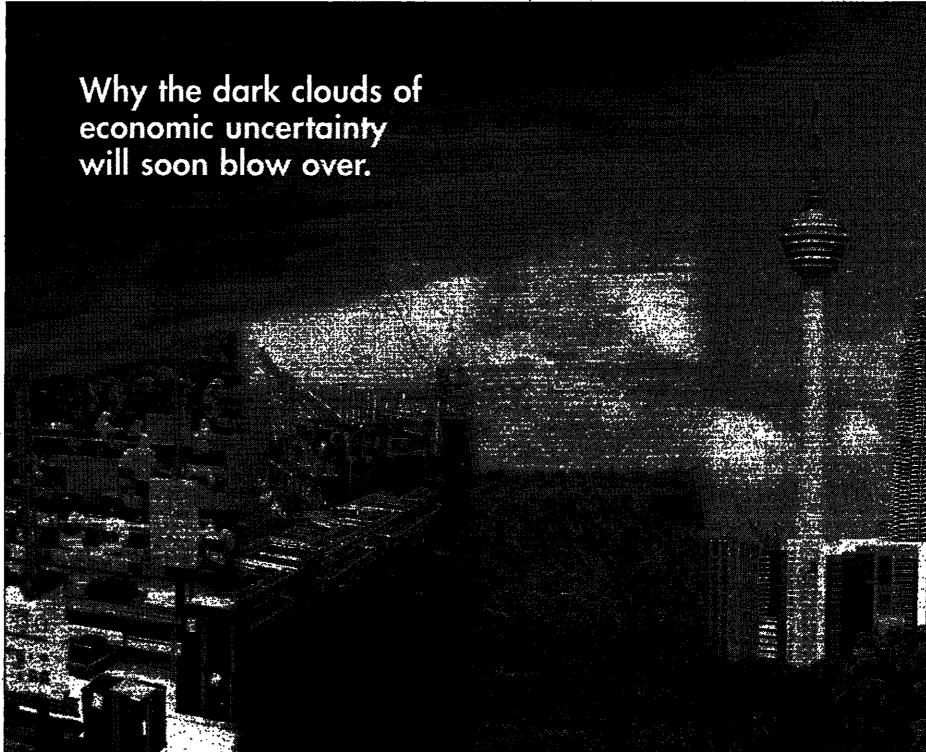
ging theories; firmness. By the time I looked to him for infant advice, the pediatrician had expanded his practice from the nursery to the world. In 1968, he was tried for anti-war protests. In the 1970s, the old anthorities blamed him for raising children out of con-

youth generation, running for president on the People's Platform, fighting against nuclear weapons and for health care. When others criticized a pediatrician playing politics he answered, "What is the use of phy-

such numbers?" "Idealism: Children's need for." At some point along the way to his very old age, Benjamin Spock became dismayed by the Spock Kids, disapproving of the baby boomers who settled down in what he saw as an apolitical, self-absorbed materialism.

Today the bookshelf that once held Dr. Spock alone is filled with Penelope Leach and T. Berry Brazelton. But it was Benjamin Spock who held our collective hands as we moved from one generation to another. He trusted us and we re-

turned the compliment. Maybe the final word for this good, struggling man rested with the doctor's own difficult mother. Half a century ago, after reading the book, she said, "Why Benny, it's really quite sensible.



There have been dark clouds hovering over Malaysia lately. One such cloud has cleared... the haze. Yet when we were about to enjoy blue skies again, another dark cloud set in... economic uncertainty.

We Malaysians, however, expect this to clear too. in due time. With an optimism that is borne out of four decades of incredible economic growth the world has been witness to.

With the perseverance to make changes and sacrifices. With the wisdom of solid economic fundamentals to see us through. With the determination to do everything for the economy to bounce back.

> And bounce back we will. How can we be so bullish about it? Because we've overcome other adversities before. And we'll do it again.

# **MALAYSIA Bullish on Bouncing Back**

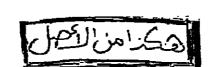












By James C. McKinley Jr. New York Times Service

ADET, Sudan - Buzzards circled the det airstrip on a recent morning while Adheil Tong waited with 3,500 other lungry people under the thorn and tarnarind trees for aid workers to distribute the food piled at the end of the runway,

Her five youngest children sat naked in the dust next to her, each thinner than the last, their eyes hollow, their ribs visible, their arms like sticks, their bellies protruding in famine's parody of fullness.

They had been waiting for two days.

"I went to my parents, but they said
they had nothing to feed the children,"
said Mrs. Tong, 38, whose husband was killed when soldiers looted their farm in October, making off with all their sorghum and caule. "There is no way I can feed them. I'm just relying on the little I can receive from the aid workers. If I receive nothing, they will die."
Mrs. Tong and the others in Adet are

the victims of what many aid officials characterize as a campaign by the govemment in Khartoum to starve people in rebel-held territories because they sup-port guerrillas fighting for an autonimous south.

For nearly two months the government has banned relief flights to all but tour airstrips in the region, arguing that it s insecure.

Heavy fighting broke out again in the state of Bahr el Ghazal on Jan. 28, when Kuanyin Kerubino Bol, a local rebel leader who had been fighting on the government's side for several years. switched sides again and attacked an

Continued from Page 1

regards as a renegade province. Mr. Qian

said last week that the job was demand-

ng and he felt too old to continue.

However, he will still serve on the

Harty's Politburo and as a deputy prime

minister, above the cabinet, responsible

for overseeing foreign policy matters.
The National People's Congress for-

mally selected the cabinet and other se-

nior officials from a slate provided by the Communist Party. Only one can-

China's New Cabinet

Prime minister: Zhu Rongil.
Vice prime ministers: Li Langing: Qian
Qichen; Wu Bangguo; Wen Jiabaa.
State councilors: Chi Haotian; Luo Gan; Wu

YI; Ismail Amat; Wang Zhongyu.

Secretary-general of the State Council: Wang

Science and Technology: Zhu Litan. Commission of Science, Technology and In-

Personnel: Song Defu. Labor and Social Security: Zhang Zuaji. Land and Natural Resources:

Railways: Fu Zhihuan. Communications: Huang Zhendong. Information Industry: Wu Jichuan. Water Resources: Niu Maasheng.

Governor of the People's Bank of China: Dal

gustry for National Defense: Liu Jibin.

State Ethnic Affairs Commission Public Security: Jia Chunwang, State Security: Xu Yongyue.

Supervision: He Yong. Civil Affairs: Daje Cering. Justice: Gao Changli. Finance: Xiang Hualcheng.

Construction: Yu Zhengsheng.

Agriculture: Chen Yaobang. Foreign Trade and Economic

Culture: Sun Jigzheng,

ng Peryan. State Economic

Sheng Hugren. Education: Chen Zhili

China's new cabinet members:

BEIJING - Following is a list of

CHINA: Pragmatists Get Economics Posts



The ban on flights has crippled the relief operation at a time when people have little food left in storage after two years of drought, not to mention several years of looting and cattle raids from outlaw rebel factions as well as Islamic militias from the north, United Nations officials said.

Aid organizations lack enough trucks to haul the food to the villages where it is most needed, and there are no good roads. So food is being stockpiled in places like Adet, while children are beginning to starve in towns like Theik Thou, just 100 kilometers (60 miles) away, aid officials said.

'It's a deliberately planned negy," said one aid worker as he strategy, said one aid worker as he distributed cereal to hungry children. "It's cheaper to them if many people die. To kill them with bombs and bullets is very expensive."

didate was offered for each position.

Most attention was focused on the

new economic team, since China has

embarked on a major restructuring of its

state industries and its banking system.

Continuing as central bank governor is a

protégé of Mr. Zhu's, Dai Xianglong. Serving with Mr. Sheng will be Wu

Yi, a rare senior-level woman known to

Americans as a tough trade negotiator,

who has been promoted to the post of

state councilor. She will be replaced as

minister of foreign trade and economic cooperation by Shi Guangshen, a deputy

On the military front, Defense Min-

ister Chi Haotian, 68, was retained. Ana-

lysts said they expected no major change

in China's foreign and military policies.

lineup is Wen Jiabao, who was appointed deputy premier Wednesday. He was

at the side of the Communist Party chief

Zhao Ziyang in 1989 when the defeated

liberal reformer tearfully told democracy protesters in Tiananmen Square he

could do no more to help them. Mr.

Wen's promotion is a testament to his

political wits and to the skill of Mr.

Zhao's successor, Mr. Jiang, in balan-

talented technocrats employed by Mr.

Zhao in the late 1980s to shake up party

and government bureaucracies. As the

head of a key party office, he escorted Mr.

Zhao to Tiananmen Square on May 19,

1989, and heard the party chief make his

It was the last time Mr. Zhao was seen in public. Hours later, party elders

purged him for refusing to back a crack-

prophetic apology, "I came too late."

tour the provinces.

cing party factions to stay in power.

Another wily political survivor in the

trade minister.

Even in Adet, many of the infants and

old people among the displaced who Ghazal today can't help the situation."

To make matters worse, the govern of food have grown emaciated and weak. Desperate for nourishment, women of the beans from tamarind trees and collecting leaves and wild fruit to eat, a strategy they do not usually employ until much later in the year, just before harvest.

"They are surviving now on wild food," said Claude Jibidar, the field coordinator in South Sudan for the UN World Food Program. "In a month's time, or two months' at the latest, the situation is going to deteriorate drastic-

Mr. Jibidar and other UN officials predict that there will be widespread famine in Bahr el Ghazal within a year unless UN planes based in Kenya are allowed to carry food shipments to more

It was in Bahr el Ghazal that 250,000 people perished in a war-related famine in 1989, prompting the UN to begin the airlift operation from northern Kenya, which is still supplying most of the medicine, relief food and social services to Sudan's south.

Since late January, the World Food Program has managed to send about 262 metric tons (289 short tons) of food to the four open airstrips, using airdrops and small cargo planes, while an unusual convoy of trucks carried in 360 more

tons from Uganda.
"If they don't give us access, in three or four months it will be too late," Mr. Jibidar said. "We will suddenly be dealing with 500,000 people when they do not I know is that they are just killing inhave the resources to survive. The quantity of food we are taking into Bahr el the people who are fighting them.

To make matters worse, the government stepped up its bombing campaign since Mr. Kerubino's defection. Nearly Dinka ethnic group are harvesting bitter every day since late January, a Russianbuilt cargo plane has prowled the sky over the region, rolling a dozen cluster bombs out of a rear cargo bay.

Because the pilots have no sighting system, the bombs often fall on civilian locations, military experts said. In the worst attack so far this year, 16 civilians were killed when a bomb hit a market in the town of Thiet on March 1.

The bombing has not only disrupted farming by forcing thousands to leave their homes when they would normally be clearing land in advance of the April rains but also demoralized many farmers food into a ravaged countryside where who have struggled for years to eke out a

Gong Mayar, 40, a Dinka farmer near the Adet airstrip, said he heard the low and distant buzz of the plane's engines Feb. 8 before he heard the sound of the bomb falling, a whoosh like rain. Then came the shattering blow of the explosion. The earth shuddered.

He ran out of his thatched house and

found his wife, Arok Reec, 25, face down in the dust about 50 yards away, bleeding from the back and the head. He carried her back to their mud-walled home and laid her near her two children. The baby wailed. His wife could not

"She was still alive," he said. "But within five minutes she passed away. I do not know what this war is about. What discriminately. They are not targeting manders who have used the conflict to

The death of Mr. Mayar's wife was a final, crushing blow to a man who had kept farming through waves of looting and cattle rustling by rebels and pro-government militias alike. His herd of cattle, once numbering 27, has been reduced to 7 pitiful creatures. Two years of bad harvests mean that he has only one 170-pound basket of grain saved to plant when the rains come.

It is not nearly enough, he says, to survive until the next harvest in Au-

The daily bombing, coupled with renewed fighting around the towns of Wau, Gogrial and Aweil, has displaced at least 130,000 people. UN officials said. These people have field without local farmers have little food to spare, aid workers said.

"The UN planes are dropping food while the government planes are dropping bombs," said Maalak Ayien, an aid worker with Save the Children, as he distributed cereal rations to children. 'The government here is trying to destroy wealth. They keep everyone dis-placed. People become hungry."

Since 1983 various rebel groups from the mostly Christian and animist southern states have been fighting successive governments dominated by Arabs from the mostly Islamic north. Most of the rebel groups say that they are fighting for independence or just for more political autonomy and greater religious freedom.

But the rebellion has been crippled from its inception by infighting among ethnic factions as well as by rogue com-

## Visuse at In Rwanda, Trial | Internet Site A For Genocide Opens

BYUMBA, Rwanda Two-Rwandan defendants pleaded guilty to genocide and war crimes Wed-

nesday at the start of the largest group, trial since the massacres in 1994.

Anastase Hategikimana and Celestin Basesayose had been accused. by witnesses of killing several people, including two children.

The charge list cites 51 defendants accused of genocide and related crimes in Rwanda in 1994, when between 500,000 and 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hums were killed.

Of the 51, three died in detention and two did not appear in court because they are minors. (AFP)

# sended. The Name of the Roselin which impulse and and and held the key to a series of a death in a medieval monas and to point from the mach and on software from the Francis of Suran. AltaVista's Israel to Remove **Currency Restraints**

JERUSALEM - Israel will lift nearly all currency exchange re-strictions in early May on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the state's creation, the central bank

said Wednesday.

The change in policy will lift the s7,000 limit on the amount of money individual Israelis are permitted to carry out of the country; will permit Israelis to open foreign: currency accounts abroad, and will end a ban on Israelis' owning homes or other assets in other countries,

#### Forest Fires Place Brazil on Alert

BOA VISTA, Brazil — Fires in Brazil's northern Amazon burned deeper into the rain forest Wednesday, eating into the Yanomami Indian reservation, as officials flew to the area to draw up an emergency firefighting plan.

The region's worst fires in recent memory have ravaged 900,000 hectares (2.24 million acres) of highland savanna.

Fernando Catao, Brazil's region al policy secretary who heads a federal delegation that flew to the area, said Tuesday that floods in southern Brazil and a drought in the northeast had stretched his department's resources to the limit. (Reuters)

### Guatemala Crash Kills 5 in Chopper

GUATEMALA CITY - A UN helicopter crashed Tuesday on a hillside in western Guatemala, killing at least five people, local and

Four others aboard suffered senous burns, according to spokesmen for firefighting brigades there.

The dead included an American, a Guatemalan, a Spaniard and an Uruguayan, fire fighters said. (AP)

things going wrong. The Flight 801 cap-

tain did not turn off the automation until

A study by Paul Sherman, Robert

moments before the plane crashed.

United Nations officials said.

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**Translatic** 

By Bruno Giussani

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By Andrew Pollack

OS ANGELES — If of closely at the opening.

"Gone With the Wife.

"see a flagpole that is not related to the building from which ting. The flaw results from \$1930s special effect, combine al daspole with a painting of

with 1939 movie classic is going susued and rereleased for its 600 artisar Should the flaw be fixed hold it be retained as an intrinsic En the original masterprece? lequestion, albeit somewhat trees Emerample of those being raises in restoration. For the arm Zibelmages within a frame of for and he diered. The restored file shale arguably "better" than the

mal or at least different. with digital, if you can think A study by rau such and the said Marty Cohine Helmreich and Ashleigh Merritt of the adoption of Joseph Said Marty Cohine University of Texas psychology depart. Only said Marty Cohine University of Texas psychology depart. Only said Marty Cohine University of Texas psychology depart. Only said Marty Cohine University of Texas psychology depart. Only said Marty Cohine University of Texas psychology depart. a can do it. said Marty College University of Texas psychology whether a substitute is a subst major factor in determining whether a anguage bugart of

ded George Lucas digitally adik creatures to some scenes of la Wars trilogy when the light technology is adding yeran admini to the passionate details what is appropriate in film resist Are old movies artworks in

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distribes against the threat of English on the Language and arrange of English on the Language and a rapidly dissolving. Nearly on French people now use the some way, a 100 percent The longer the producers wait the more significant the cut in production

announce Friday that they will reduce the sulfur content in gasoline, allowing carmakers to fuel a new generation of lowpolluting cars, according to sources with-

a even the low-tech President character will speak to the nation of the French branch of the second delicity and one of the people. The planned announcement by the nate reached fame among and about one year ago. During the library, he fingered a court and asked his aides what he distant the court and asked his aides what he distant the court and asked his aides what he distant the court and asked his aides what he distant the court and asked his aides what he distant the court and asked his aides what he distant the court and asked his aides what he distant the court and the cour

The new cars will be available in showrooms next year, and the automakers filed a petition with the Environmental Protection Agency to prod



Chinese military policemen mustering for patrols outside the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on Wednesday.

# charge of agriculture policy. (NYT, AP, Bloomberg, Reuters. AFP) **ISRAEL:** Settlements Back in Spotlight

Continued from Page 1

project in Jerusalem appeared to subside as quickly as it had erupted, with Mr. Netanyahu saying Wednesday that he considered the incident closed. Earlier, Israeli officials at home and abroad delivered a string of denunciations of Mr. Cook and the European Union for allegedly trying to interfere with Israel's ambitions in Jerusalem.

Throughout the episode, Mr. Cook sounded unrepentant, saying that he had deliberately sought to underscore European backing for the Clinton administration's call to suspend new settlements in order to revive Palestinians' confidence in negotiations.

Before leaving Israel for Syria to continue his Middle East tour, Mr. Cook said at a news conference that the European Union, of which Britain is currently president, was "unanimous" in its concern about expanding settle-

The Har Homa housing project, which Mr. Cook visited Tuesday, has sparked

## Israel Arrests Teenager As Pentagon Hacker

The Associated Press JERUSALEM - Officials said Wednesday that they had arrested an 18-yearold Israeli accused of breaking into the Pentagon's computer system.

The police did not identify the teenager by name, but said he was known in hacker circles as "Analyzer." They said he would be brought before a judge within 24 hours.

Analyzer is suspected of being the mentor of two U.S. teenagers who have been interrogated by the FBI in connection with incursions into Pentagon and university computer systems.

violent opposition among Palestinians, who say that the settlement is designed to complete an Israeli-populated belt around the Arab part of Jerusalem.

In Washington, James Rubin, the State Department spokesman, declined to comment directly about the Har Homa incident, saying that "we were not consulted on the specific itinerary of the trip." Mr. Rubin went on to praise Mr. Cook, saying that the Clinton administration had "great confidence in him personally and in his intentions.

Another American official confirmed privately that Washington and London had held advance consultations about the general line that Mr. Cook would be taking on his trip.

The issue of continuing Israeli ser-

tlements in Palestinian-populated areas has frequently resulted in criticism from European governments, especially France. Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine has said that the peace process is moribund largely because of Israeli behavior in this regard.

In an incident with similarities to Mr. Cook's problems at Har Homa, President Jacques Chirac complained that he was jostled by the Israeli police when he insisted on visiting a Palestinian neighborhood in Jerusalem during an official visit last year. But the Israeli reaction to Mr. Cook "seems so exaggerated, it must spring from some twist in Israeli domestic politics," a French official said in Paris. Of all the EU countries, Britain has

been the one most closely aligned with U.S. reluctance to criticize Israel. Mr. Cook has been promoting a plan to help unblock the peace process, calling on Israel to withdraw a significant number of troops from the West Bank and stop building settlements. Washington has never publicly backed these terms - which are rejected by Israel — but the close ties between London and Washington may have fed fears in Israel that Mrs. Albright

# PILOTS: Air Safety Flies Into a Touchy Debate Over the Role of National 'Culture'

Continued from Page 1

down. He has since lived under house arrest, occasionally let out to play golf or Investigators and academics do not suggest that one culture produces su-While other Zhao aides were sidelined, perior pilots. But studies have found Mr. Wen retained his office, apparently striking variations in the way pilots from with Mr. Jiang's blessing. He through the different countries approach relationbureaucracy of the party Central Com-mittee and, at 55, was made a member of ships with their colleagues in the cockpit - and that in turn suggests that airlines the powerful Politburo in September. As must adjust their training regimens to account for those differences. U.S.-indeputy premier, he is expected to take spired training programs have been used around the world, and some safety experts have suggested that these can fail to

recognize national differences. One survey of pilots from 12 countries. for example, found that Korean pilots ranked highest for their trust in automation; pilots from the United States. Australia and Ireland ranked the lowest. Another study of 10,000 pilots detailed how Korean aviators report greater shame when they make a mistake in front of their crew members, while Filipino pilots view their airline as being a large family, thus favoring a more benign and paternalistic command style.

Statistics show that some areas of the world, and some national airlines, have terrible safety records.

in the last decade, only five of the world's hundreds of airlines have had four or more fatal crashes, and four of them are Asian: Air India with seven, Korean Air with five, China Air with four and Garuda Indonesian with four. One U.S. airline made the list: USAir, now US Airways, with five.

Korean Air 801 became the 14th Asian aircraft in the last 10 months to go down. These crashes killed a total of 856 people, according to a count by Morton Beyer & Agnew, an aviation consulting firm. The consultants said most of these appeared to be planes being flown into the ground — in industry parlance, "controlled flight into terrain" - and asked whether the aviation industry should "form a task force to review qualifications and training of Asian airmen.

Yet questions of culture are not clearcut. The Japanese, like the Koreans, have a hierarchical society. Yet the Japanese have one of the world's best aviation safety records. Such statistics, according to some researchers, leave culture for behind as a safety issue.

"While accidents tend to be geographically specific, they are not cul-turally specific," wrote Captain Surendra Ratwatte of Emirates Airlines of Dubai in a 1997 study of the issue. "Of the three major accidents in Central/ South America last year, for instance, only one was a Latin American airline. The others were a North American car-

record in South America can be ac- areas can be thin. For example, pilots fly the plane," even when they see counted for by a combination of high were certified to do instrument apmountains, poor infrastructure and relatively crowded skies. Culture plays very little part in any of this."

Moreover, like all crashes, an unusual set of circumstances combined to lead to the Korean Air 801 accident. If culture is cording to investigators. part of the equation, it may be only a tiny Investigators want to know why the plane was flying too low and why the crew was confused about its approach

altitude. Why was part of the airport's instrument landing system off-line? Why was an air traffic control altitude warning device on Guam misprogrammed? Korean Air officials have complained

that spurious radio signals also may have confused the crew, and one witness is scheduled to discuss that subject at the Investigators will also delve into the

role the Federal Aviation Administration plays in overseeing foreign airlines that fly into the United States. The safety board has previously criticized the FAA as sometimes lax in enforcing safety regulations on foreign carriers. Many questions will also be raised about how Korean Air trains its pilots,

Investigators have found that parts of Korean Air's training in some critical

proaches if they had successfully performed the same instrument approach to Kimpo Airport near Seoul only three times. Crews are given little training in how to handle unusual approaches, ac-This could be important in the Korean

Air 801 crash because the crew was informed that the airport's glideslope one of the guidance tools in the instrument landing system — was out. That meant the crew was supposed to do a "nonprecision" approach with different requirements, including maintaining higher altitudes on the approach. Some questions will have no easy answers, however, particularly ones re-

garding the crew's actions that night. Why did crew members allow the autopilot to continue flying the plane until just seconds before the crash? Sources close to the investigation said national cultures may be more inclined Korean Air placed heavy reliance on the to accept" the computer's authority

use of cockpit automation, which is so sophisticated these days that it often can better landing than pilots flying by Yet numerous studies show that over-

reliance on automation can be a killer. Pilots who trust automation too much will be reluctant to turn it off and "just mation," she said.

nations, 100 percent of Korean pilots answered "yes" when asked if they preferred automation and whether the effective pilot "always" used automation — the highest percentage of all the 'Individualistic, egalitarian-based

their survey of 5,879 pilots from 12

societies" like the United States. Australia and Ireland "may feel more comfortable 'asserting themselves'" with the flight management computer. while pilots from more hierarchical

without question, the study said. A Korean Air spokeswoman, Penny follow an approach path and perform a Pfalger, said that officials had not seen the survey, but that Korean Air pilots were required to confirm and crosscheck everything the automation does. "There is no pilot, Korean or American, who would rely 100 percent on auto-

# OIL: Lowest Prices in a Decade Bring Hope of an Economic Boon

Continued from Page 1 (Economists forecast that Russian

plans for making 1998 the year of stable growth could falter because exports could fall by more than 10 percent.] Oil for April delivery strengthened on the New York Mercantile Exchange on prices. The market also is expecting in-Wednesday, rising \$1.22, to \$14,43 a

harrel. In late October, it traded above Cheaper oil will increase the amount of money consumers have to spend elsewhere, can add to corporate profitability and may result in increased economic growth as a result - but without in-

creasing the rate of inflation, said Mr. Sinai and others. If oil prices average about \$6 a barrel cheaper than last year, that could reduce the annual cost of U.S. oil imports by

mild winter in the North Atlantic, higher and higher inventories, a slowdown in demand in Asia, and the unwillingness so far by two of the biggest producers in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries - Saudi Arabia and Venezuela to cut production to arrest the fall in

creased exports of oil by Iraq eventually. 'We are in a completely different price environment now." said Mohammed Abduljabbar, a senior economist with Petroleum Finance Co., an oil-industry consulting firm.

The end of the decline is not in sight

vet, said some forecasters. A consulting firm headed by Ahmed Zaki Yamani, a former Saudi oil minister, said that the price could fall below \$10 a barrel.

OPEC agreed to new quotas for production in November, but key members have produced more than that amount. Saudi Arabia has chafed over Venezuela's violations, "It's a fight over market share," said Philip Verleger Jr., an oil industry consultant. "It's just a

OPEC postponed until March 30 a

meeting of its Market Monitoring Com-mittee that had been planned for Monday, reducing the likelihood of a quick remedy to overproduction.

will have to be to turn around this mar-

ket." Mr. Abduljabbar said. ■ Firms to Make Low-Sulfur Gas

The largest U.S. oil refiners plan to

in the federal government and the oil industry. The Washington Post reported.

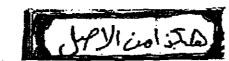
American Petroleum Institute, which represents refiners, comes on the heels of demands this week by U.S. automakers that the government force oil companies to produce the new fuel.

the oil companies.

is moving in that direction.

\$16 billion, a 23 percent drop, said Joyce Brinner, a principal in Standard & Poor's DRI, an economic forecasting company. The United States spent \$7 billion on oil imports last year. Oil prices have been sent into a decline good old-fashioned price war." rier and a European one. The poor safety by a combination of factors, including a

**CribTech** 



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# **Translation Software:** For Genocide Open Misuse at Own Risk

Free Internet Site Attracts Jokesters and Poets

By Bruno Giussam

New York Times Service

By Bruno Giussam

New York Times Service

By Bruno Giussam

New York Times Service

EW YORK — Umberto Eco has y a passion for playing with words. So he yielded to the latest web temptation: AltaVista's free

Translation Service.

Like many other Internet users, t' italian semiotician and writer — wb works include "The Name of the Rc a novel in which language and a' books hold the key to a series c terious deaths in a medieval mostarted by poking fun at the — on software from — rran, AltaVis fly by

company Systran, Altavisia s company Systran guages: French, German, Spanish, Pormuguese and Italian. Other options such as

Japanese and Italian. Outer option in the works.

Users can key in a Web address and Users can key in a web and the displayed the corresponding page will be displayed a page with just the text in the corresponding page was become your better the text into the requested language. franslated into the requestion of they can type in a word, a sentence or Or they can type in a word, and have it a paragraph up to 500 words and have it a paragraph up to seconds. In steel

For several weeks now manned thousands of people looking for entertainment on-line — including Mr. Eco—have been busy typing in gobbets of text, having it translated into another language and then translating it back.

Results are often funny; it's actually quite easy to make an automated trans-lation look goofy if one is just a little familiar with the subtle nuances between different languages.

Type in "rock and roll," ask the machine to translate it into another language and then back into English, and you'll get everything from 'rock and role" to "cliff and seam."

Submit sentences including slang exn<sub>στεν</sub> pressions or homographs, those words which are spelled the same but have different meanings. Use, for example,

the English word "male," which means "evil" in Italian. Type in a couple of lines with "burro" ("butter" in Italian, yet a Spaniard would understand "donkey"). Or try out a paragraph with "deception," the word the French use for disappointment."

Exploit the difficulties the translator has in keeping track of names. Passed into Italian, then back into English, a biographical notice such as "Bill Clinton was born in Hope and grew up in Hot Springs" will read "The invoice Clinton has been taken in the hope and it has been developed in warm motivating forces.

To those who have never dealt with automated translation, the tool may seem unreliable. "The system clearly has limitations," said Dimitrios Sabatakakis, the chief executive of Systran.

"By translating back and forth, you accumulate mistakes both ways," he added. "This really isn't the best way to test the machine." Assuming that they are aware of the

limitations of the technology, the magic
— and the usefulness — of the Alta Vista translator lies in that it allows Internet users to get a glimpse of understanding of information written in a language they do not speak. For Europeans trying to access the 80 percent of the Web that is in English, this is already great news.

The system may also give Americans and Britons an idea of what is being published on-line by all those foreigners. Read the latest on the Germany's rising political star, Gerhard Schroeder, directly from Der Spiegel magazine. Learn about a French actor or an Argentine writer.

ltaVista suggests enhancing searches by using the system to translate the query words into another language, search for information in that language, then translate the pages that look interesting. Having tried all these options, Mr. Eco offers another hint: Use the trans-

lation service for creative purposes. Take for example the first two verses of Dante Alighien's "Divine Comedy":

"Nel mezzo del cammin di nostra vita,

mi ritrovai per una selva oscura." Having it translated into English and then back into Italian just "proves that a machine cannot compete with the Divine Poet," Mr. Eco wrote in L'Espresso, an Italian magazine.

But what if we type in the original Italian text, tell the computer that it is in Spanish, and ask for an English version? The machine will of course find Spanish words that it doesn't know, and will leave them unchanged: "Nel mezzo del cammin I gave nostra vita, my ritrovai to per a dark forest."

Let's now run Dante's original sentence several times through different languages. At some point it will read "In the sense of our life, calm I have found in one dark forest." While the sentence may sound peculiar, it suggests a feeling that is the opposite of

double "U" double vous double "U" double vous double vous double vous double vou double you double you

Dante's, who was frightened to be in the

Mr. Eco would be thrilled with this result: "all we have to decide now is which contemporary poet we can at-tribute these verses to," he wrote.

Beyond jokes and poetry, Systran's products are a serious business. The European Union, for example, uses them as a productivity booster for its armada of 1,800 human translators who deal with thousands of pages of doc-uments a day in a dozen different lan-

Founded in the 1960s in California to develop Russian-to-English machine translation systems for the U.S. Air Force and later for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Systran is a rare case of an American high-tech company bought out by European investors.

Based near Paris, the company sells client-server and desktop translation tools mainly to governments and corporations. Teaming up with AltaVista, it is now moving into the mass market. Its basic "personal translation" software package is priced at \$49, with a more advanced version at \$250.

SITES AltaVista's translation service can be

http://babelfish.altavista.digital.

com/cgi-bin/translate? Systran's Web site: http://www.systransoft.com/ **ALT** /Commentary

# Designing a Web Page? Keep the User in Mind

By Margot Williams Washington Post Service

ASHINGTON -- What do Web users want? Recently, I've spent a good part of my time conducting Internet training sessions for journalists and journalism students in the United States and - of all places — Hong Kong. It's a great gig and I often learn as much as anyone else - in particular about what Web users really want from the people who create Web pages.

The most common question I get is:
"How do I know if the information on a page or a site is good in-formation?"

People would have a lot easier time answering this if authors would provide more information on their pages about their products and themselves. Specifics about the publisher, including name, credentials, af-

filiation and contact information both e-mail and phone number - are crucial. It's not good enough just to tell people to "contact webmaster." How current are the information and

the page? Readers want to know the date the page was created or updated. They also want to know the date of the information that is displayed on it. And what is the point of view? If your site has a commercial interest or an advocacy issue, let the reader know. Is the information correct? Readers

want to know the source is reliable. Attribution, references, spelling and grammar are taken as evidence of the

general quality of your site.

What type of information is included? Before clicking on a hypertext link, readers would like some idea of what they are getting into, seeing as how they will often be sitting twiddling their thumbs as the page downloads. Describe the contents clearly. Is the person going to a list of links? A sound file? A graphics-heavy display?

Web users also have a lot to say about Web page design. They may not know much about it, but they know what they like and what they hate. Here's a wish list from Web users

to Web designers: Create pages that appear on the screen quickly. Don't load them up with big graphics. Related issues: no blinking, no animated graphics, no dancing babies. Make the navigation easy. Keep the buttons in the same place as you move through the site. Those buttons and

icons should be logical and labeled. A site map is a good tool for navigation. Adding a search engine to your site will bring cheers. Keep in mind that many people still have good rea-sons to send Web pages to their print-ers. If the page is displayed as white type on a black background, the text will not appear on the printed page.

If you want to reach the widest audience, make sure your pages are accessible by a full range of technology options. Don't assume that users will upgrade their systems or program versions in order to see your stuff.

Remember that some folks disable Java on their browsers to speed them up. Many don't have all the helper applications that make those special effects and file formats readable. Give these readers an alternative in text or html

Consider your global audience. If you can, provide multilingual pages. If you can't, clear, well-written English would be helpful, too.

without frills.

If you're making an effort to produce a page that people will "bookmark" on their browsers for an easy return to it, take the time to add useful interactivity. All kinds of feedback mechanisms are well received; e-mail. Web discussions and Web-to-database fill-in request forms will get you those return visits and kind comments.

But expect some complaints as well. Anyone can be a publisher on the Web; anyone can be a critic, too. Margot Williams's e-mail address is: williams@washpost.com,

#### SITES

Related sites on the Internet: For more information on evaluation of Web site quality, check out the the Information Quality WWW Virtual Library:

www.ciolek.com/ WWWVLInfoQuality.html For the 1997 Media in Cyberspace

www.mediasource.com

# Should Technology Fix Film Flaws? Digital Restoration of Classic Movies Creates an Artistic Dilemma

By Andrew Pollack New York Times Service

OS ANGELES --- If one looks closely at the opening credits of "Gone With the Wind," one might see a flagpole that is not really attached to the building from which it is jutting. The flaw results from a crude 1930s special effect, combining a real flagpole with a painting of a

Now, the 1939 movie classic is going to be restored and rereleased for its 60th anniversary. Should the flaw be fixed, or should it be retained as an intrinsic part of the original masterpiece?

The question, albeit somewhat trivial, is an example of those being raised by a powerful new technology - digital film restoration. For the first time, the images within a frame of film can easily be altered. The restored film can thus be arguably "better" than the original, or at least different.
"With digital, if you can think it you can do it," said Marty Cohen,

head of postproduction at the Dream-Works studio. "If you want to take Humphrey Bogart out and put Brad Pitt in you can do it."

Indeed, George Lucas digitally added new creatures to some scenes of the "Star Wars" trilogy when the movies were rereleased in 1997. Digital technology is adding yet an-

other element to the passionate debate over what is appropriate in film restoration. Are old movies artworks, to be preserved in their original state, or products, to be upgraded to retain their consumer appeal? Both considerations - cultural pre-

servation and profit - have spurred increased interest in film restoration. With the explosion of cable and satellite television channels and home video, movie studios have realized there is gold in their libraries of old films. But these old films were often not properly stored; it is estimated that about half the films made before 1950



'Star Wars,' 'Touch of Evil' and 'Gone With the Wind' have been restored using digital technology. are lost and many made since then are fading and deteriorating.

Film restoration is also getting a push from new technology, such as high-definition television, that displays clearer images. Splotches and crude special effects will become less acceptable as viewers become more discerning and demanding.

Digital restoration involves scanning film to convert each frame into a digital image. These images can then be displayed on a computer screen and manipulated by an artist using a mouse or a digital pen and tablet. The repaired image is then recorded back onto film.

Digital technology allows film restorers to do things that are difficult or impossible with the older optical and chemical techniques, which have involved trying to make new exposures from older negatives, color separations or other components.

With digital technology, scratches, tears and dirt can be erased and the space filled in with pixels identical with those nearby or borrowed from the preceding or following frame. And images can be changed to cor-

rect mistakes. In restoring Disney's 'Fantasia,'' artists filled in a shadow for Mickey Mouse missing from one

frame and the foot of an animal missing from another, said Jerry Pooler, visualeffects supervisor at Cinesite, a Hollywood company owned by Eastman Kodak Co. that did the restoration. But digital has its detractors. Purists

complain that the digital systems have lower resolution than film itself, so the resulting restoration, while clear of dirt and scratches, can lack the visual richness of the original. The biggest obstacle to digital res-

toration is the \$1 million to \$5 million cost of restoring a film, several time that of using photochemical techniques. A movie might have 200,000 frames that must be cleaned up at an average rate of about 15 frames an hour. Each frame requires up to 50 megabytes of storage, meaning high computer costs.

So far, the only studio using digital restoration on a consistent basis is Walt Disney Co., whose animated "Snow White" was the first film to be fully digitally restored in 1994.

Restorations often include footage not in the original film. Seagram Co.'s Universal Studios is cooperating in the reconstruction of Orson Welles's "Touch of Evil." Using digital technology, the film will be recut in the way Mr. Welles intended, with quick scene changes, based on a 1957 memo the director wrote to the studio, which overruled him.

But many of the new uses are for subtler changes - fixing such things as the flagpole in "Gone With the Wind" that resulted from sloppiness or the limits of technology at the time the film was made. In the future, some believe, studios

might archive their films and television programs in digital form, which could then be distributed easily via digital television or the Internet. But for now, no digital format has

the richness of film, and some question how long digital media, like magnetic tape and CD-ROMs, are likely to

# **BOOKS**

AN INSTANCE OF THE FINGERPOST

By Iain Pears. 691 pages. KIVEINEAA BOOKS, 327.

Reviewed by Michael Dirda

OXFORD, 1663. After more than 20 years of civil and religious upheaval, a king once again sits on the English throne. The Protector Oliver Cromwell egalitarian society — have been de-stroyed or dispersed. Peace, finally, has

returned to a ravaged land . . . or has it? So begins Iain Pears's crafty and mesmerizing intellectual thriller, "An Instance of the Fingerpost."

As haunting as "The Name of the Rose" and as gripping as "Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy," this is a novel about deception and self-deception, about the scientific method and Jesuitical chicanery, above all about political expedience and religious transcendence.

A fingerpost was a crosstoads marker that used a painted finger to indicate the narrative, there is no such reliable pointer. In these pages we are lost in a wilderness of mirrors, doubting testimony, evidence and even confession, ultimately unsure of who is using or betraying whom. But Pears gradually, and masterfully, takes us from an unexplained death in a small college town to a revelation that could shake the foundations of England.

One afternoon an Italian gentleman named Marco da Cola arrives in Oxford, seeking the noted scientist Robert Boyle. Leiden, with a particular interest in the victim, or could the poisoned wine have properties of blood, and he has come at been meant for someone else? his teacher's suggestion to pay his respects to Boyle. The Italian is easygoing, amiable and perhaps a little naive. Al-

of natural philosophy?

One of the suspicious few is John England before Newton, and for many ars the chief code-breaker for John Thurloe, the chief of Cromwell's in-telligence service. Wallis possesses an would-be lawyer is obsessed with provicy, even cruel intelligence, being one of those men with a legion of admirers and is dead. The Levellers, Diggers and other no friends. Strangely enough, he has factions - with their wild dreams of an survived the Restoration, as has his even more formidable master: the courteous, gentie-spoken Thurloe -- who, Wallis says, "could be more terrifying with less effort than any man I knew.' Over the next few weeks Marco da

Cola gradually grows acquainted with several Oxford notables — the medical student and philosopher John Locke, the historian Anthony Wood, the young Richard Lower — but he, most strangely, shows a peculiar interest in Anne Blundy and her daughter, Sarah. The Italian treats the elder Blundy as she lays mortally ill, even though the pair are far too poor to pay him, and pays close right direction. For most of this long attention to the talk of the pretty, introspective Sarah, branded a slut and widely suspected of being a witch. The father of the family, the soldier Ned Blundy, is dead, but is remembered as a tireless fighter for absolute equality between women and men, peasants and aristocrats. He died, it is said, under mysterious circumstances.

As does, one night, Robert Grove, a gruff, obstreperous don, poisoned in his chambers. Who did it? And why? Cola, Sarah, a young theology student named Thomas Ken and one or two others had Cola has been studying medicine in opportunity. But was Grove the intended

BRIDGE

most everyone likes him immediately. art world - uses it mainly as the wedge But is he what he seems, a simple student to pry open other, far more deadly polit-

ical secrets. The same night that Grove was Prestcott daringly escaped from prison, where he was awaiting execution for ing the innocence of his dead father. Sir James Prestcott, a notorious traitor and double agent during the Civil War.

In the second section of the novel, Jack lays out his efforts to unearth the truth about his father's role in a secret society called the Sealed Knot, and incidentally fills in some of the gaps in Cola's opening account of his eventfilled visit to Oxford.

In the third section, Wallis takes over the story and relates how his return to cryptography, this time in the service of King Charles's minister, Henry Bennet, leads him to understand the deeper purpose of Marco da Cola's sojourn in

Finally, in the last quarter of the novel, the genial local historian Anthony Wood does the honors, revealing the murderer of Grove, the secrets of Sir James Prestcott, the mystery of Marco da Cola and the truth about Sarah Blundy. For readers even a little familiar with

the 17th century, it is pleasing to realize". that "a bumptious man who works in the Navy Office" must be Samuel Pepys, or to recognize "King Lear" from Cola's" disapproving description of the play. In fact, all but a handful of the char-

acters are actual historical figures. (Pears provides a convenient dramatis personaé as an appendix, along with a chronology.) Fans of Christopher Hill's many books on 17th-century intellectual history and of Keith Thomas's "Religion" and the Decline of Magic" may even" have a leg up on more casual readers. Washington Post Service

#### BRIEFLY

Book new form of the European country most skeptical of the New form of the European country most skeptical of the New form of the European country most skeptical of the New form of the European country most skeptical of the New form of t VIVE L'INTERNET!: Mesdames pean country most skeptical of this new form of American colonialism," as a French minister said last year.

France's diatribes against the threat

Now, even the low-tech President lacques Chirac will speak to the nation over the Internet," said Bruno Oudet, the presidents of the French branch of the Internet Society and one of the people behind the festival.

Mr. Chirac reached formet users and the people behind the festival.

ternet users about one year ago. During a visit to a library, he fingered a com-puter mouse and asked his aides what it was immediately becoming a global icon of political backwardness.

#### TECHNOLOGY INDEX A clance at technology stock indexes around the world

North America	Tuesday close	% change previous week	% change year to date	
Pacific Stock Exchange	337.26	250	+16.07	
Technology Standard & Poor's Technology Composite	797.80	-165	+13.98	
Europe Morgan Stanley Eurotec	540.19	1887	+40.23	
Asia Topix Electric Source: Morgan Stanley, Bloombo	1684.43		+2.45	

For technology articles from the past week, see the Technology Index on the IHT's World Wide Web site at http://www.iht.com. Articles include:

- Wab Gossip Gets a Day in Court Mar. 13
- SGS-Thomson Halves Chips for Navigation Mar. 13
- Is Sky Realty Falling? Astronomers Bicker Mar. 14-15
- Signting Puts Universe Farther Out Mar. 14-15
- A Lively Race on the Net Har. 16

e-mail to triblech@iht.com.

 The Cyberlawyer: Legal Animal of information Era Mar. 17 Alitel Purchase to Create Telephone Glant

intel is on the Prowl to Invest in High-Tech

Newcomers Mar. 17

. Brisk Business for Computer Security Companies Mar. 18 To reach TribTech editors or to comment on IHT technology coverage, send

International Herald Tribune

By Alan Truscott

SOME hands leave a defender bewildered. The diagramed deal from the Flight A Regional Swiss Team Championship in Hauppauge, New York is an ex-

ample.
In one case North-South bid to four hearts quickly, with North raising hearts immediately. West led a trump. The declarer concluded that the trumps must be splitting evenly, since it is seldom right to lead trump with a singleton or from a four-card holding, and made the indicated play: win with the ace, play dia-monds, ruffing the third round with dummy's trump jack, and

draw trumps. In the replay West led the unbid club suit. East took two

winners and shifted to a dia-mond. South won and was to take his 10th trick in foolish or brilliant. diamond. He would not know at left. whether to ruff high, and there was some possibility the diamond lead was a singleton. He therefore played four

**◆** A K 987 WEST **◆**QJ63 **4** 5 **♦ 195 ♣**J9

NORTH

SOUTH **4** 10 2 ♦ K 8 3

nervous about playing to ruff a spades. The position is shown The routine play at this

point was the spade 10, planning to duck in dummy. South hopes for a three-two split but has the option of a finesse. West was expecting this and planned to cover with one of his honors, winning the trick. Then a low spade return would put South to the test. But South led the spade

two and West played low, fearing that his partner held the singleton 10. South played dummy's nine but if he had lost this trick he would have gone down with no chance of a finesse. The 10 would block the suit.

West was left to realize that he could have played an honor and beaten the contract, and to

NORTH (D) **▲ AK9874 ∇AJ6 \$ 10 6** , 475 EAST ♥ 61es **V53 ♦ J952 4**AKJ932: 4 Q 8 6 SOUTH **▲** 10 2 VKQ842 OAK83 **4** 10 4 Both sides were vo South 2 ♥ North Pass 3 0 Pagg :'A'

France's diatribes against the threat the dominance of English on the Internet poses to French language and culture are rapidly dissolving. Nearly 1.5 million French people now use the internet in some way a 100 · 文本工程 · \* **奉**\* **本** 本 、 、 4.00 - - - -

garage and the **新** Section 2

> A small Paris-based team working on a budget of 300 000 a budget of 300,000 francs (\$49,000) is coordinating more than 500 local and national initiatives. For information, go to www.fete-internet.fr.

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PAGE 10	INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1998	<u> </u>
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By Barry James

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By Joseph Fitchett

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By Sharon Reier

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# Information Society

# What Next in Multimedia Revolution? Beware Predictions

By Barry James

ELSINKI -- In line with other historical bloopers such as This telephone has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication" (Western Union memo); "I think there is a world market for maybe five computers" (IBM chairman Thomas Watson); or "640k ought to be enough for anybody" (Bill Gates), the British scientist Lord Kelvin was seriously off the mark when he pro-claimed 100 years ago: "Radio has no

Today, radio is a major component in the phenomenal growth of the global elecommunications network, the largest and most complex object ever made by man.

The fusion between wireless communication, the entertainment industry, data transfer and the classical telephone is driving a revolution. The boundaries that separated the telephone from the radio or the television receiver are breaking down with bewildering

'In another 10 years - who knows? distinctions between broadcasting and telecommunications may mean nothing at all," Pekka Tarjanne, secretary-general of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), told broadcasters in Los Angeles last

Mr. Tarjanne comes from Finland. the world's most wired up, switched on nation - with more Internet connections per capita and more portable telephones than anyone else. It is the home of Nokia, which 100 years ago was a dusty little company producing paper products and rubber galoshes and which now makes more than 20 percent of the world's portable telephones and much of the underpinning infrastructure.

Nokia began marketing mobile telephones only 16 years ago, hefty devices magnitudes bigger and some 60 times heavier than today's shirt-pocket or pocketbook gadgets.

Nokia executives tend not to call them telephones anymore. They are "communicators," increasingly capable of receiving and sending short messages or faxes and even of browsing the

The telecommunications industry is about to embark on another of its seismic changes with the adoption in Paris in January of an open set of standards for the next generation of digital mobile phones. Already Europe and Asia are on board, but it remains to be seen whether the United States will participate in cre-

ating a truly global norm. The new phones, available around the turn of the century, will have enough speed and band width to receive still and full-motion video images as well as voice — making the videophone a near reality — and will operate anywhere in reach of a satellite.

Nokia has also rapidly embarked on the manufacture of set-top boxes that turn an ordinary television receiver coupled with a phone connection into an Internet communicator. The reason is obvious: there are more television sets in the world than there are telephones. More than half the world's families

have no telephone. In the developed countries, there are 45 phone lines or more for each 100 people. In sub-Saharan Africa, there is less than one, and in many rural areas, none. Only around 20 percent of the world's fixed phone lines are located in developing countries, home to 85 percent of the world's pop-ulation. About 97 percent of Internet hosts and 84 percent of personal computers are located in richer countries with only 16 percent of the world's

THE mobile phone could help close this gap, by enabling countries to set up networks that do not rely on costly fixed infrastructure and lines. In Bangladesh, one of the world's most indigent nations, the Grameen Bank, which lends small sums of money to the very poor, has set up a telecom subsidiary that aims to put at least one portable phone in each

of the country's 68,000 villages, making it the largest wireless pay phone project in the world. The bank's founder, Muhammad Yunus, says his vision is simple: to put 100 million peasants in touch with the outside world, and to

bring them jobs via the Internet Incidentally, having created the telecom subsidiary, the bank then set up another company to make solar panels to recharge the phones. That's a classic example of the dictum that the telecommunications industry is not only a creator of wealth - \$600 billion in sales in 1996 - but also a facilitator of wealth. The value of financial services transferred across the international telecommunications networks exceeds \$1

trillion every day. Already more mobile phones are being added around the world than fixed phone lines. Industry executives predict there will be 600 million mobile phones within five years, equal to the number of fixed lines today, and even that heady figure could be largely outstripped. "Even 100 percent market penetration is not the limit," said Jyrki Laine, a senior Nokia executive. "After all, how many watches do we have?'

Cellular phone prices in Finland already are approaching the level of fixed phone tariffs. In the near future, Nokia executives say, digital wireless phones may become the norm for voice communications, leaving fixed lines for mass data, Internet, intranet and broadcast transmissions. In effect, mobile and fixed communications will merge into a seamless whole.

Although most people may not have realized it yet, 1998 is year zero of a revolution, according to Mr. Tarjanne. It was the start of global deregulation and competition.

On Jan. 1, the European Union; opened up its telecommunications infrastructures and markets to domestic and foreign competitors. An American company, for example, can own a European subsidiary, complete a call from end to end and pocket the proceeds

Continued on Page 15

# U.S. Military Draws Up Battle Plans on How to Win an 'Info War'

By Joseph Fitchett

ARIS — Information warfare was born with hackers, anarchistic whiz-kids who got so bored waiting for their turn running a big IBM mainframe at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology that they turned to pranks such as taking a piano apart, then reassembling it atop the chapel spire.

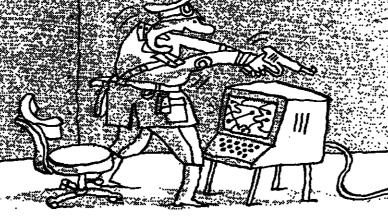
Known in the college jargon as "hacks," these extracurricular activities were channeled in the 1970s into imitating telephone codes to obtain free long-distance dialing and then into breaking into the networks that started tying together computers, initially those of the Defense Department and its laboratories and military contractors.

It was the Cold War, and spies quickly spotted the hackers' military potential. In a well-publicized early ase, KGB agents infiltrated the Chaos Computer Club in Cologne, West Gernany, and recruited hackers to make ong-distance break-ins by telephone to siphon out information from computers in the Pentagon and some defense conractors' offices. The hackers were de- by accident, officials would rans-Atlantic electronic cops-and-rob-

The episode is well recounted by lifford Stoll, an academic turned govrament consultant, in his book, "The luckoo's Nest." It fit a general pereption in the 1980s that military comjuters exposed the United States to anger. Hackers starred in "Warames," a 1985 movie in which comjuter manipulations almost set off an ecidental nuclear war.

Such scenarios seem wildly overamplified to experts grappling with the amount problems of "information warare." the new military specialty that is both touted as the new U.S. superweapon and as a possible Achilles' heel for the U.S. military. As studies pro-lierate, the only certainty seems to be the degree to which different specialists diagree about the nature and extent of.

Last year a task force under Pentagon aispices warned that U.S. forces might



Harbor," meaning that enemies could suddenly destroy or damage so many networks and electronic functions that the U.S. administration and economy would collapse.

At the same time, however, the U.S. military relies increasingly on what strategists call "information dominance" to enable the United States to win wars on its own terms. Roughly speaking, the concept, also known as "the revolution in military affairs," have you believe — and then caught in a rests on the idea that U.S. forces can rely on closely knit systems of networked

#### A super-weapon or an Âchilles' heel for U.S. military?

computers as the basic weapon for win-

The key to this military revolution is digitalization, allowing communica-tions, pictures and artificial intelligence to be packed into a single system that embraces satellites, missiles and robots and ground troops. An overwhelming electronic advantage will allow the United States to read enemy codes and even substitute false messages. High-precision missiles can knock out key installations, neutralizing enemy fire power. And satellites provide a complete picture (including car license-plate numbers) of everything in a 100mile by 100-mile battlefield. Thanks to miniaturization, each foot soldier gets a complete picture constantly of any immediate threats.

Ideally, the hope is that U.S. air, ground and sea forces can see and destrov enemy forces before they themselves are spotted.

'It's America's gift to warfare,' says former Admiral William Owens, an influential theoretician. In his thinking, "info war" is usually offensive because only the United States has th ascendancy in data processing and miniaturization to rely heavily on informa-tion technology. Information gleaned by satellites can be shared instantaneously by commanders, air force interceptors and infantrymen on the ground.

In addition, the ability to overpower rival countries' electronics means that the United States can use the technology to launch stealthy, fast, devastating at-tacks on the military and civilian infrastructure of an enemy, from knocking out a country's communications to knocking its missiles off course.

The promise of this new technology is so powerful that Admiral Owens has compared it with the old strategic importance of nuclear weapons. Just as the U.S. edge in nuclear strength was the basis for the Western alliance in the Cold War, today the near-U.S. monopoly of information technologies should provide a new basis for coalition between Washington and its allies if the United States offers to channel its information resources into guaranteeing

The targets are myriad, especially if you go beyond the military and think about sabotaging services that depend on information technology by simply

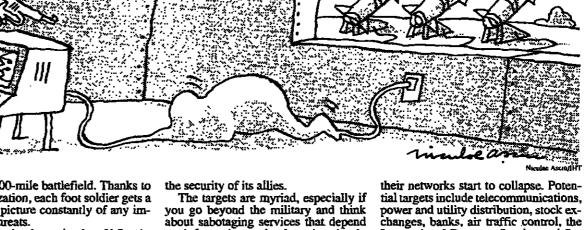
International Revenue Service and So-

a recent CIA study of U.S. vulnerability in an info war.

Experts are constantly discovering new potential targets, and new limits. Just as the United States never sought a: limited nuclear exchange with Moscow,! it has refrained from using its electronic capabilities. It could, for example, hack into the electronic records of banks to wipe out all of Saddam Hussein's wealth stored in banks around the world." "You don't do things where you might" be vulnerable to a counterattack of the;

same nature," a U.S. official said. So where is the real concern of U.S. strategic planners? Offering some cautious generalizations, a senior U.S. mil-n itary officer said in an interview recently at NATO headquarters that there was no realistic threat of a "Wargames"-type operation or even of seeing hackers steal U.S. military secrets.

Of course, it still gets reported, as it did last month, when 11 U.S. military com-





# Why Europeans Lag in Using PCs Computers in $ar{U}$ .S. Do Far More and Are Cheaper

By Sharon Reier

ARIS - In the computer industry, where there are buzzwords for everything, the catch phrase is "the technology

Microsoft and Bill Gates may be household names around the world, but the reality is that there is a dramatic gap between acceptance of information technology and personal computers in the United States as opposed to Europe. Statistics indicate that more than 45 percent of households own personal computers in the United States while

taly 23 percent do in Europe.
And in Japan, where the 20,000 Kanji
Characters made traditional personal
Computer keyboards difficult to use unil recently, personal computer accept-ance has also lagged with only 17 per-cent of horseholds equipped with PCs. So are Europeans and Japanese opting

out of the information age? Are they 20th century Luddites, resisting technological imperialism from America rather than forsaking their cultural heritage? Not exactly. Indications are that economic factors may be as important as cultural ones in slowing information technology's inroads. The economic

can the united states. Toon Bouten, vice president in charge of European consumer marketing at Compaq, explained the price differential this way: "In Europe, PCs are more expensive because of VAT, higher

pounding the problem, he reckoned, is that, on average, Europeans have 25 percent less disposable purchasing power after taxes.

power after taxes.

"We have done surveys," Mr. Bouten continued, "and we found that people are not willing to spend more than 5 percent of their total annual income on a PC."

Once they buy a personal computer, European consumers typically get less benefits from them. According to Uhrich Puhrsch, founder and CEO of Actebis, one of Germany's biggest computer disuibution companies, the typical German consumer uses his home computer as much as 90 percent of the time for games, whereas his American counterpart uses his to find stock quotes, communicate with friends and business connections through e-mail and to search

the Internet. Many Americans regard their personal computer as a communications tool. In Europe, the Internet has not yet achieved critical mass, so it is primarily a computing tool and toy. "The root cause is the extremely high cost of telephone usage in Europe," Mr. Bouten said. "There is a lack of availability of good local content," such as advice on where

to go out in the evening.
This appears to be changing. France Telecom reports 1,000 subscribers a day signing up for its Wanadoo Internet service. And an initiative to transfer Minitel services onto the Internet may stimulate more PC use. In Germany, the number has grown to two million. But

labor costs and higher property rental costs for computer dealers." Comsonal computers are equipped with modems - communications devices that allow the computer to hook up to the telephone system. In Europe modern use is under 50 percent.

Eliminating the economic factors by comparing computer usage at two prestigious multinational corporations, Bristol Myers in the United States and Nestle SA in Europe, one finds the socalled technology gap narrows signif-

Requested to provide a log of their normal daily computer use, both Marlene Lichtman, a product manager for Vavoom! hair care products, a Bristol-Myers subsidiary in Cleveland, and Benoit Marotte, group product manager for coffee products at cafés and vending machines at Nestle in Paris, produced remarkably similar routines.

Both managers logged on first thing in the morning and picked up their e-mail. Both used accounting software systems, inventory software systems with sales and product breakdowns. Both used their computers to write up reports on meetings. Both have portable computers that they take home most evenings for an extra two or three hours of work that may

entail sales projections.
But there were differences. Mr Marotte received an average of 20 to 25 e-mails a day, virtually all on company business. E-mail from social acquaint-ances, he remarked, "is not very com-

Continued on Page 12

If you really want to make money with your fixed network, you've got to exploit the Internet to the maximum.

The hunger for exciting multimedia is driving up connection speeds. That means broadband

What you need is a knowledgeable partner like Nokia to make it happen. As a total fixed network solutions provider, we make it easy for you to grow from narrowband to

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Fast Internet makes your head spin

> NOKIA CONNECTING PEOPLE

By Richard Tomlinson

ELTING — Swinging their truncheons, a dozen "intellectual property police" strode into action along Beijing's Zhongguancun street. At the sight of them, the hawkers of pirated compact discs and CD-Roms hurriedly gathered their wares and decamped.

"We're here to get rid of the software pirates," said one policeman. He appeared less concerned however, about the hardware bandits along Zhongguancun, in the heart of Beijing's university district. The street is home to hundreds of computer stores.

At first glance, the businesses seem entirely legitimate. At one shop, for instance, licensed to sell IBM personal computers, the manager was horrified at the suggestion that he might also sell homemade or "backyard" models, as they are known. "There are people, usually foreigners, who ask us if we can assemble our own computers," he said. "We can't do this, because there are strict laws in China about who is allowed to make them.'

Next door, however, Wu Qing, erstwhile movie stuntman turned backyard computer specialist, is less trou-bled by the rules. Mr. Wu, 24, says "it's easy," to assemble a computer. "You just take the bits from different computers, depending on what your customer wants. Most Chinese can't afford imported parts, so my computers generally have local or Taiwanese parts. When I have an order, I just call friends on the street to buy what I need."

After-sales service for backyard computers may be nonexistent, but product delivery is exceptional. Normally, Mr. Wu can build a computer from scratch

in a matter of hours. He and thousands of other backyard operators across China are kept in business by soaring domestic demand for personal computers. The Ministry of Electronics Industry estimates that last year around three million personal computers were sold in China; the latest forecast suggests demand will rise to 4.5 million units in 1998, and 10 million units by 2000.

are sold to offices and factories, a growing number of China's upwardly mobile urban middle class are getting wired. Zhang Qi, a senior official at the Ministry of Electronics Industry, reported last year that around 5 percent of families in China's coastal cities own com-

It is a three-tier market. At the top end are the major international brands like Compaq, IBM, AST and Hewlett-Packard, whose models can sell for as much as 25,000 yuan (\$3,000).

'These PCs are mainly aimed at foreigners and local Chinese yuppies," said Xu Yang, a 33-year-old Beijing businessman who bought a Compaq two years ago for 21,000 yuan. The Ministry of Electronics Industry estimates that foreign manufacturers claim about 40 percent of total market share.

Competing in the mid-price range are Legend, Great Wall, Tontru and Founder, the leading domestic PC man-ufacturers, as well as a host of Taiwanese brands such as Giant, Leo and Acer. These computers are typically 15 to 20 percent cheaper than the most basic international models and sell for around 10,000 yuan. And they are the kind that the new class of urban pro-fessionals on steady incomes can afford. Legend, a venture by the Chinese Academy of Science, claims to have sold 433,860 computers last year, or 14.3 percent of total market share. Great Wall, the next largest mainland manufacturer, claims market share of 7.5

That still leaves plenty of space for hundreds of backyard operators such as Mr. Wu, who do business at the bottom end of the market. Prices change weekly, according to demand, but the unwritten rule for these operators is that they must always undercut the middleranking "legitimate" Chinese and Taiwanese manufacturers.

One do-it-yourself operator off Zhongguancun street even posted a cost breakdown for customers. For about \$950, he could assemble a personal computer that incorporated an Intel P-120 central processing unit, a SUGA monitor, and a 16-megabyte memory. 'The price of the model is subject to

Although many of these computers change according to the price of parts, the notice explained. Although few of these merchants will discuss profit margins, according to Xu Yang, the Compaq owner, these are generally around 50 percent.

As for the spare parts supply chain, Beijing's backyard operators can buy Intel-95 circuit board retails for less than \$100, with no questions asked, at Electronic World, a state-owned department store on Zhongguancun street.

A typical customer recently was Hua Xueyu, a 25-year-old computer dealer from Nanjing, who was inspecting cir-cuit boards. Mr. Hua's principal concern was quality. "If you're an expert," he explained, "you can tell whether it's the genuine article from the serial number." Once satisfied, Mr. Hua proposed to buy 100 circuit boards for assembly at his workshop in Nanjing.

ND HOW did he market the end product? "Usually I put a Philips sticker on the outside frame." he said nonchalantly. My customers like this brand.

Faced with such mass hardware plundering, legitimate manufacturers have so far adopted a surprisingly low-key response, at least compared with the criticism directed at China's software

Jochen Doering, head of corporate communications at Siemens Nixdorf, said last year that the company was staying "pretty cool" about the backyard industry. The argument made by iemens-Nixdorf and (off the record) by other big computer makers is that the backyard operators are helping to build the market. In time, the argument runs, upwardly mobile Chinese will progress from unreliable, hastily assembled models to authentically branded personal computers with a proper aftersales service.

The pessimists, however, maintain that the backyard industry has to be tolerated because it is impossible to suppress, given the spiraling demand for cheap PCs and the token nature of the official "crackdowns."

RICHARD TOMLINSON is a journa-



Chinese are avid buyers of home computers. Shanghai shoppers check out models at Yaohan department store.

# Mixed Signals From Asia Crisis

By Philip Segal

ONG KONG — The economic crisis in Asia is not as bad as it might seem, according to some technology executives, although the demand for personal computers in Indonesia is 50 percent below what it was a year ago, and exports from electronics powerhouses such as Singaore are falling as well.

"I don't expect a turnaround soon," said Bruce McCabe at Dataquest in Sydney, an analyst who follows sales of PCs, desktop computers and low-end servers. Because governments and companies in Asia have just recently revised their purchasing budgets, "we really feel some of the impact hasn't even hit," he said.

But then ask Craig Batey, another analyst at the same firm, about the future for computer services in Asia, including systems integration, outsourcing of payroll, consulting and training. For him, the economic crisis has been nothing more than a "storm in a teacup." Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia may have seen their currencies plunge, but together they make up no more than 7 percent of the Asia Pacific services market, which itself is only 5 percent of the world market for services.

Even if we took a hit of 10 percent across the board, this is only half a percent in the world market, and we're not even forecasting that it will be that bad." said Mr. Batey.

Elsewhere, the picture is ilarly mixe Asian technology companies export not only to the United States and Europe, but to other countries in Asia as well. Non-oil domestic exports technology-heavy Singapore fell 0.5 percent in January, even though a weaker currency against the U.S. dollar is supposed to make exports grow. Export orders from Taiwan fell 14 percent in January compared with the same month in 1997, with orders from Hong Kong down 30 percent, a five-year low.

Japan ordered 29 percent less.

unchanged, and those for information and telecommunications products actu-

So far, the computer market in China has remained robust, as China's currency has not depreciated like almost all the others in East Asia over the last six months. But International Data Corp.'s head of China research, Karim Davisak, is not willing to predict a continuation this year of healthy market growth. The economic outlook in China, which some economists think could see its currency fall by 25 percent this year or next, is simply too murky. Since 80 percent of China's overseas investment in 1997 came from the Asian region, problems in Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore are bound to have repercussions even in a country with a growth rate of 8 percent.

For every Kent Electronics, whose stock in the United States fell 28 percent in one day last month when the company warned that slow sales in Asia would cause fourth-quarter profits to fall, there are the Dell Computers and others kinds of technology companies that are not only riding out the Asian crisis, but perhaps even using it to open doors previously closed to them in the region.

Japan's NEC Corp. says it expects total semiconductor sales to drop by 1 to 2 percent as a result of the Asian crisis, and figures that demand is down by more than half in South Korea. The upside: with a vastly devalued currency and a domestic banking system up to its trouble financing the constant improve eyes in debt. South Korea will have muchnology to modify en ments in technology needed to stay of corporate accounting and sead in the semiconductor business. see to automated teller net Bals and other financial state

By Barbara Wali

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By Tom Buerkie

ONDON - The iron

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ANCHESTER, E When Sara Jac offered a free box

That is what makes Paul Edstrom happy. He is senior vice president with Comdisco Electronics Group of California, which leases new and used semiconductor equipment made by the likes in handle transactions of Nikon and Novellus. For him, the man I good at least for more than the man in t Asian financial crisis may achieve what years of banging his head against a wall a la example, will complete could not access to the vast South a 12 billion-peseta (\$77.5). Korean market, which until now has been largely closed to foreign suppliers. Massens and automated

One reason for that is that leasing is stallane to ensure that its sy part equipment business and part fi- it isted and debugged by nance. Since Comdisco mixes debt and salare Alba, a member of equity when it finances semiconductor aram equipment, it used to come up against importations present a min South Korea's unfavorable tax laws and an with many taking adm its barriers against foreign equity hold- a compulsion rule regaings in the country, some of the most awar transition period. restrictive in Asia.

EFORE this year, Korea's skin international Businehol. or conglomerates, scorp, which stunned handled most of the leasing in industry recently when it south Korea. Now, with the all a would put off some country in the midst of a mammoth abuntal 2001 to devote its credit crunch, foreign leasing companies are being treated much more kindly. "In the last 30 days, five of the top 10 equipment suppliers have come to us and said: Can you fix this for us?

We don't want to lose this order" Korea, said Mr. Edstrom. Among foreign manufacturers and

distributors in Asia, very few have announced that they are packing gets good again. For one thing, assets right now are extremely cheap. For another customers will remember who was there for them when they were unable to pay their bills during the darkest day of the crisis. Compaq and Hewlett Packard are just two of the household names that have been busy investing it the Philippines, India and other parts of the region.

> PHILIP SEGAL is the International Herald Tribune's correspondent in Horg

# Trans-Atlantic 'Technology Gap'

Continued from Page 11

By contrast, Ms. Lichtman reported around 150 e-mails per day, including those from friends around the country. She also has a standing request with a Wall Street Journal information service to provide daily stock quotes and information on certain companies as well as to cull all articles daily related to

Mr. Marotte does not speak at all about stocks. When he requests industry intelligence about a competitor, his request goes through a Nestle department that handles documentation on economic trends and information interesting to Nestle in the press. The information is sent out on an inter-company computer network, or intranet.

These differences may seem negligible, but to computer industry insiders like Edward Iacobucci, chairman of Citrix Systems Inc. a U.S. software company that is experiencing strong growth in Europe, it reflects a distinct cultural

"In Europe," he said, "there is more acceptance by the end user at the ter-

minal that the computer is a tool, rather than the computer being a personal statement." He added, "The notion of liberating the end user to manipulate information on his own and equality for one and all is not very high on most Europeans' priority list. It seems to be an American phenomenon.

Mr. Jacobucci contends that the American attitude about personal computers has an inherent danger. "It suports a system of planne cence." he said, comparing it to the auto industry in the 1950s and 1960s. "A new generation of PCs is introduced every 18 months and everyone clamors to replace the old one in order to be on the leading edge

But if the European style of distrib-uting data in a hierarchical fashion has prevented many European organiza-tions from wholeheartedly embracing

PCs, the reverse holds true in Japan. Ben Bensaou, associate professor of information technology and management at Insead, the French management school, has studied the use of information technology in Japanese corporations, where mainframes and mini computers dominate and PC penetration is flat.

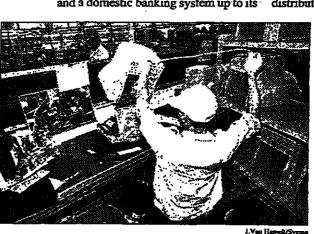
"If you measure the communication between a Japanese business unit and a Western unit," Mr. Bensaou said, "who gets the information would be different. In Japan, a lot of information is gathered by lower-level staff and shared and transmitted orally. A lot of information would be filtered by the staff before it reached senior managers.'

This method better prepares Japanese companies for their cultural method of communication and its inherent high media richness," Mr. Bensaou said, 'are better suited to resolve the ambiguity and equivocality involved in the critical process of building consensus, nurturing multiple internal coalitions and making deals.

In other words, data crunching takes a back seat to sound judgment and con-

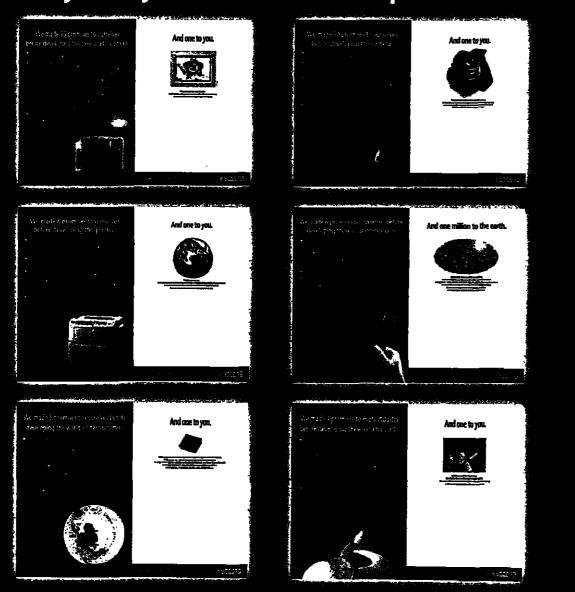
In the end, predicted Mr. Bensaou, like most cultures, the Japanese will adopt the personal computer. "But they will want to adopt the technology without losing their soul."

SHARON REIER is a freelance journalist based in Europe.



Scary statistics, but broken Great Wall computers being assembled in Shenzhen.

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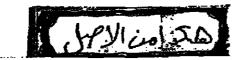
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## INFORMATION SOCIETY / A SPECIAL REPORT

# By Internet or by Phone, Ways to Bank From Home Multiply

By Barbara Wall

ANCHESTER, England ---When Sara James was offered a free home banking software program from her local bank here, she accepted the gift with some reluctance. Still, she signed on and has not set foot in a bank since.
"With two small children to care for

and a business to run I have better things to do with my time than stand in line at the bank every Friday afternoon, Mrs. James said. She uses the home banking program for simple transactions such as paying bills, moving money between accounts and downloading account statements. A process that used to take

two hours on a Friafternoon, now takes 10 minutes or riday evening. To bank on-line need a PC, modem link and a pretary home banking software progror a personal fi-nance software gram such as Quicken by Intuit icrosoft's Money. Some banks supple software free of charge and levy antily fee of about \$6, but due to triing pressure from branchless bank the internet many

retail banks are ping their fees. The number anks on the Internet has mushroome the past 12 months.

Many have a ) site that provides details of a fewice products, but not much else. Burowing number offer a full service, uding bill payments, money transfend a comprehensive

range of discounted savings products.

One attraction of banking on the Internet is that you avoid all the fancy graphics and other add-on financial planning tools that can make some home banking software programs seem com-plicated to use, Interest rates on savings products are generally more competitive than the rates offered by retail banks. This is because many of the Internet banks do not have branches to pay for and can pass on their savings to customers.

Atlanta Internet Bank pays a rate of 4 percent on its checking accounts provided clients maintain a minimum balance of \$100. The standard rate offered by U.S. retail banks is generally 1.5 percent to 2.5 percent. For a monthly fee of \$4.50. Atlanta customers can also

pay as many bills as they like on-line. Security First Network Bank pays 2.5 percent on its checking accounts and, provided clients maintain a balance of 5,000, they can have access to an un-

limited bill-paying facility.
"As well as competing on rates, Internet banks are attempting to build on customer relationships by offering a number of nonbank-related services said Bob Callender, a spokesman for European Banking Research in London. 'Rabobank in the Netherlands was the first European bank to set up as an Internet service provider. Instead of getting an Internet connection through traditional channels, customers can get the

connection through the bank." For those who do not have access to a PC, there is always telephone banking. Most banks allow customers to conduct

business by phone.
ING Direct, a subsidiary of ING Groep NV, operates from a call center in the suburbs of Toronto. There are no fees or service charges, and the interest rates are among the most competitive in Canada, according to bank analysts.

If you like the simplicity of banking by telephone, but would like to download account details on to a screen, screen phones are a relatively inexpensive alternative to PC banking. More than 80 banks in the United States offer customers this facility. A screen phone is a small computerized terminal linked to the telephone that allows users to key in account details, execute money transfers

and pay bills. The terminals cost about \$100, and banks generally charge a monthly on-line service fee of about \$5.

Screen phones have been popular in France and Germany for many years. The French Minitel and German T-Online systems are public access computerized information networks run by divisions of France Telecom and Deutsche Telecom.

Consumers use these systems as a source of information, for on-line banking and on-line shopping. Any purchases made on-line are added to the con-sumer's monthly telephone bill. The telecom companies charge a small monthly rental fee of about \$5 for the terminal.

BARBARA WALL is a journalist specializing in personal finance.

# With Euro Almst'Here, Companies Scramble to Get Ready on Time

By Tom Buerkle

ONDON — The imminent start of monetary union is proving to be a boon for Europe's IT industry, but it remains unclear iust how many institutions will truly be ready when the euro arrives in just over nine months' time,

Banks, companies and other organizations will spend an estimated \$80 billion to prepare for the single currency. Roughly half that amount will be spent on computer services and information technology to modify everything from corporate accounting and billing systems to automated teller networks.

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Banks and other financial institutions are understandably in the lead, given that their very survival will depend on their ability to handle transactions in euro from Jan. 1, 1999, at least for wholesale caya, for example, will complete a two transactions. Spain's Banco Bilbao Viz/s year, 12 billion-peseta (\$77.6-million) overhaul of its computer software, payment systems and automated teller network in June to ensure that its systems are fully tested and debugged by January, says Marta Alba, a member of the bank's uter systems of finacial institutions

euro team. Corporations present a more mixed oreign currencies addachange rates. picture, with many taking advantage of Compared with the nuch publicized the no compulsion rule regarding the year 2000 problem, wich can set comthree-year transition period to adapt puter clocks back o1900 instead of their systems for the euro as their IT recognizing 2000, to euro poses a budgets and personnel permit. The most greater number of temological probnotable is International Business Markets, experts say.

chines Corp., which stunned many in "If it takes a coin (if it has anything the industry recently when it acknowl to do with money atll." said Martha edged it would put off some prepa-Bennett, vice presidt of Giga Informations until 2001 to deceate it states had been expected in the control of t rations until 2001 to devote its stretched nation Group in Lblon, "reality be-IT resources to solving year 2000 prob-comes very uncomfoable.

Ironicallye biggest wild card is governmentie euro; advent may relect the wit Europe's political leaders more thany ecotomic logic, but it's uncert; when government ministries will ready to leal in euro.

Only set of the expected 11 euro countries ve issued plans for their transitionand many of them will not be ready January. The delay is frustrating/niy business executives, who see the lity to reper results and pay taxes a social securty contributions in a life currency aross Europe as one bee most targole, cost-saving benefi of the euro.

"There's a tremendous lack of clarity from certain countries as to what they will accept," said Alex Ferguson, chief financial officer of Zambon Group, an Italian pharmaceutical company.

For most IT experts, the delays underscore the complexity of the transition and the odds that some organizations will encounter serious difficulties.

'The computer industry has a terrible record of performing on big jobs they're always running late," said Robin Guenier, the head of Task Force 2000, a nonprofit body helping British companies grapple with the millennium bug. He has urged the British govern-

ment to seek a postponement of the euro's launch until after 2000, a call Mr. Guenier hopes will dramatize the situation even if it is rejected out of hand.

Colin Stringer, senior manager of euro transition services at Cap Gemini Sogeti, warns that companies which delay euro preparations to concentrate on the millennium bug could be overwhelmed by the competition even before the year 2000 arrives. That's especially true in financial services, he said, predicting that people will move very quickly to banks that are offering the best service."

Many big banks have opted for the most complete solutions, seeing the

win new customers. Banco Bilbao Vizcaya will provide euro services beginning in January to anyone who wants them, including individual account holders, and will list the euro value of every transaction alongside its peseta value at least through 2002.

Other companies are looking for ways to take advantage of the changes and prevent their euro transition costs from being just a one-time tax. Zambon, which had sales of \$350 million in 1996, is spending \$1.6 million, or virtually its

euro as an opportunity both to upgrade their data-processing capability and to arations as a spur to rethinking and streamlining its supplier and distribu-tion networks. "It gives us the oppor-tunity for increased centralization," Mr. Ferguson said.

Siemens AG, the German electronics and engineering giant, sees the euro "as an opportunity to streamline its software and establish a foundation for the seamless transition to the year 2000," said Michael Sen, a member of the company's euro team. Siemens also expects to recoup its euro costs of more than 100 million Deutsche marks (\$55 million) in three years by reducing currency hedging and transactions costs and improving cash management through the consolidation of its myriad bank accounts across Europe.

Of course, one person's cost is another's gain, and computer programmers and software companies are reaping the benefits of all the euro activity. In London, demand from the financial services industry has driven up programmers' salaries by as much as 50 percent in the past year, and HSBC Holdings PLC has had to let some of its IT experts do outside work or shift to a consultant basis to retain their services, bank executives say.

Hyperion Software Corp., a leading U.S.-based supplier of software for budgeting and business analysis, says the euro is boosting its sales in Europe. Companies are "looking to stretch the use of our software to see where they can get a competitive advantage" out of monetary union, said Matthew Goldsbrough, the company's European marketing director.

TOM BUERKLE is the International Herald Tribune's London correspon-

# Single Currency: A Computing Headache

By Andrew loss Sorkin

ONDON - The arrival of the euro, Europ's single currency, on Jan. 1, 199, could have se-rious consequences for the comnd just about any camany that deals in

European money union, which

currencies of the participating countries, has stipulated that there will be a transition period from 1999 to 2003. During that time, financial institutions and other companies will have to be able to deal with two sets of currencies; the

euro and the local money. This is expected to be a headache because most software packages can handle only one currency at a time. Moreover, when converting money during the transition period, the arithmetic is different, and more complicated, than in simply converting one currency into an-

For example, if you converted a French franc into a German mark today, you would multiply the franc by another number to get a mark. But under Economic and Monetary Union rules, during

will set the value of the euro against the convert a franc into a euro, round the cial data into euros to chart past, current mark and round again. This type of conversion is known as triangulation. Unfortunately, most computer systems were never designed to handle triangulation.

Another problem arises when comiters have to deal with decimal places. For example, some currencies, like the Italian lira, have no decimal places, therefore making Italian-only systems obsolete. But the monetary union has said that all systems will have to be able to account for six significant decimal places, making most systems, which now account for two, out of date.

The rounding of numbers adds to the confusion. Some rounding occurs in every currency conversion, but a rounded number is inherently less accurate than the original. Some companies plan the transition period you would have to to convert decades of historical finan-

number, and then convert the euro into a and future performance. "When you have a company convert their history, the numbers become almost meaningless because they will never be com-pletely accurate," Ms. Bennett said.

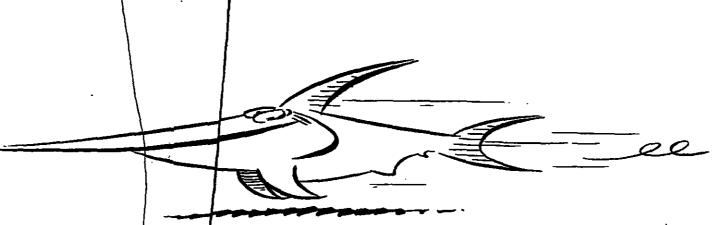
Other problems include adding the character to font sets, printer drivers and keyboards. Automated teller machines will have to be overhauled to include the character on their screens. 'The year 2000 is one singular problem, with one singular fix," said Nick

Jones, research director of Garmer Group Europe, a technology advisory and research firm. "The euro opens up so many problems. They are more than just technology issues. They are strategic business issues."

ANDREW ROSS SORKIN is on the staff of the New York Times.







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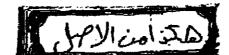


By Don Ki

Korea's inform ogy center he aded 25 years ago to in ech powerhouse ladok Science Townside in 1973 during the real haden Park Chung Hee Manment, busines work together to e initional rivals were While individual trius might compete abeend they were hand for the sake of has was no other ways bratch rapid deve antaitechnology and by the develop hat are currently 172

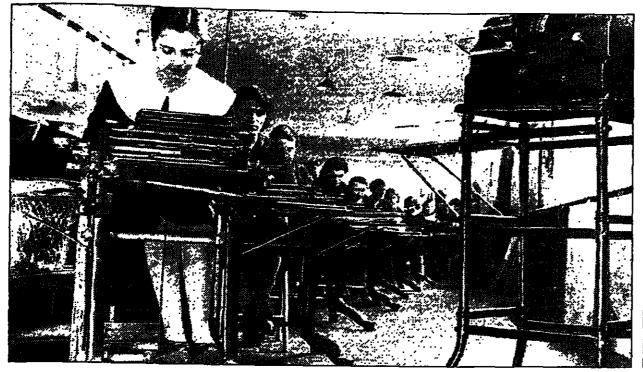
Taedok Science

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### INFORMATION SOCIETY / A SPECIAL REPORT

# Computers Have Yet to Deliver the Big Payoff in Productivity



Computers have transformed the workplace, but their long-expected kick to productivity has yet to materialize. At left, a French accounting office in the mid-1930s; at right, Agence France-Presse's offices today in Paris.

By Erik Ipsen

"EW YORK — Several decades and hundreds of billions of dollars after it began, the information age still maintains its grip on the imaginations of consumers and businessmen alike, but in one critical area it has never caught fire. Its long-expected kick to productivity, the key to higher living standards and low inflation, remains just that - long expected and still elusive.

In the United States, for instance, in the early 1970s - the dawn of the computer age — productivity growth actually fell into a 20-year swoon. In recent years, productivity growth has stepped up again in a development seized apon as (belated) proof of the power of computers. Growing today at 2 percent per annum, though, productivity has merely regained its pace of the 1950s and 1960s, an era long before PCs started popping up on desk tops and factory floors, supposedly making us all so much more productive.

Economists apologize. Part of the

problem they explain is that productivity gains are notoriously hard to measure especially in the service sector that makes up the bulk of modern econ-omies. "The main problem, though," said Chris Freeman, emeritus professor of science policy at Sussex University in England, "is that the gains have just not been that great.

Like many others, L.L. Bean, the Maine-based, Web-present, mail-order house, has a surprisingly hard time pinning down the precise benefits of tech-nology. Asked for examples of the gains reaped by its large multiyear investments in computers and state of the art phone systems, the company couldn't.

"I am surprised, but I just got blank stares from the people I spoke to here," said Catherine Hartnett, the company spokesperson. After years not of revolutionary change that suddenly drew them out of the dark ages, but of systems upgrades and of more incremental sorts of change, she confessed it is "difficult to say" how much has been gained.

In some cases nothing at all. A. Gary Shilling, head of the eponymous New Jersey-based economic consulting firm,

points to a study of the American life insurance industry in the 1980s. Then, as companies spent lavishly to put PCs on practically every desk, productivity actually fell.

Mr. Shilling complains that his firm had to make a significant investment in technology so that it could get important government economic reports as soon as they were released in Washington. "The problem is that it doesn't do us any good since everyone else made the same investment," he said.

It is a common tale. Shane Greenstein, a professor at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Manage-ment, notes that today many companies invest in technology just to keep up with their rivals not to increase

He cites as an example his father, an accountant who takes his portable PC to his clients' offices to do their accounts on the spot. Although his clients prefer this service, since other accountants do the same thing, no one can charge extra for the added convenience. In such cases, neither the company, nor the pro-ductivity statistics gain. "The benefits

frequently get transferred to the end today's computers are doubling in causers in terms of better quality products and services," said Mr. Greenstein.

Some experts insist that technology may at times actually retard productivity. Elisabeth Broeck-Rocha, chief European economist with S&P/DRI in Brussels, cites recent studies suggesting that office workers increasingly fritter away valuable time surfing the Net.

IKE MANY other executives, she also muses disapprovingly on how PCs have taken much of the typing off the secretary's desk and piled it on the boss's. "We all do more secretarial tasks than we did

For the true believers in the miracle of the micro chip, technology's minimal impact on productivity to date marks a disappointment but certainly not a defeat. They still predict that the computer revolution will have a bigger impact on productivity than even the Industrial Revolution. Unlike the steam engine, for instance, which a century after its invention had gained little in efficiency and lost little in bulk, they note that

pacity and halving in price every couple of years. And their applications, from car navigation systems to heart monitors, are almost limitless.

John Liewelyn, chief global economist at Lehman Brothers in London, insists that the revolution needs more time. "What we are up against here is human not technological speed limits." he said, noting that new technologies require new ways of managing and new ways of working as well.

The most eager to adopt the new technology have been in the high-tech industry itself. There competition is keen and openness to new ideas high. and so, too, is productivity. Experts say that far bigger leaps in productivity lie ahead, when new technologies are adopted by larger and more complex organizations like big city hospitals. The problem is that the larger and more complex the organization, the more reluctant it is to endure the upheaval of putting a new computer system in place.

Although it may seem like computers have become central to the functioning of the economy, they have not. Personal computers and the more powerful minicomputers account for only 3 percent of the value of the assets of America's industrial companies

'I personally think that we are getting a big productivity bang for the bucks we have invested in computers,' said Frank Lichtenberg, a professor at Columbia University Business School. But it is not that many bucks."

Part of the problem is that those investments are constantly being gnawed away by obsolescence. It destroys the value of computer programs, systems and networks at a pace never dreamed of with the capital investments of a generation ago.

Exacerbating the problem are the sums spent simply on fixing mistakes. The industry's habit of recording years as two digits, not four, in millions of computer programs, the so-called year 2000 problem, will cost well over \$100 billion to fix. Earlier this month, Citibank put the tab to fix its own year 2000 problem at \$600 million.

ERIK IPSEN is a journalist based in

# Crisis Puts Squeeze on High-Tech Research at South Korean Center

By Don Kirk

AEDOK SCIENCE TOWN. South Korea — At South Korea's information technology center here, the question these days is whether the government and industry can still come up with the funds needed to continue the drive launched 25 years ago to turn Korea into a high-tech powerhouse on a par with the West and Japan.

Taedok Science Town was established in 1973 during the rule of the late President Park Chung Hee who decreed that government, business and industry would work together to do what their international rivals were doing so profitably. While individual institutes and researchers might compete with one another, in the end they were to share what they learned for the sake of the nation. There was no other way, the planners

said, to match 'rapid developments in science and technology and protection of technology by the developed nations. There are currently 17 government

facilities and 28 private research institutes at Taedok Science Town, on the northern fringes of the city of Taejon about 150 kilometers (90 miles) south of



One of Taedok Science Town robots entertained bystanders at recent fair.

Seoul. But a question mark hangs over

"We have a very difficult situation financially," acknowledged Kang Pil Koo, an official in the Korea Science and Engineering Foundation, the government-backed nonprofit organization that serves as a conduit between the theoretical research of academic scientists and their commercial exploitation by industry. He added that Korea's new president, Kim Dae Jung, "emphasizes small government and downsizing, but he also

stresses science and technology. At the Systems Engineering Research Institute, the new emphasis means the

budget for research and development, in Korean won, this year is about three quarters of what it was last year. With the won worth about half as

much in dollars now as it was a year ago, however, the institute's budget in dollar terms comes to less than \$30 million - a pittance for the kind of research it conducts in information processing, software engineering, information security and computer and system software.

The institute nearly lost funding when the new government's transition team at first tried to eliminate the Ministry of Information and Communication, which provides most of the institute's funds.

Shin Gyu Sang, head of the software engineering department of the institute's object-oriented development laboratory, said that eventually the new government realized its importance.

Mr. Shin acknowledged that Korea lags well behind the West in most areas of information technology. However, he cited two areas where he believed the institute has excelled.

"Color-imaging developed by this institute may be the best in the world." he said, adding that "this technology has just been transferred to a private company" and might be commercialized by the end of the year.

In addition, information-processing for translating English to Hangul, the Korean writing system, and Hangul to English is, he said, "the most advanced field" now under study at the institute.

Mr. Shin said that researchers have come up with a program that is able to translate 40 percent of a text. By the end of the year, he said, that rate will be 80 to 90 percent in specialized areas, such as simply written technical manuals or business letters.

Companies in the West have programs for translating Western lan-guages, he added, but a Hangul-English program is difficult because "the structures of Korean and English are very different." The task represents a major step from the institute's success in developing a program for translating Hangul to Japanese, which has basically the same structure.

At the Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, a university within Taedok Science Town, Cho Jung Wan, chief of the center for artificial intelligence research, said members of his team were working on "machine translation.

URRENTLY, he said, the state of the art in machine translation was translating middle school texts into Hangul from English and Hangul into English. The next step was for the computer to be able to translate manuals from English into Hangul. Researchers at Mr. Cho's center are also working on speech recognition, handwritten character recogni-

tion and robotics. Producing a program that is capable of functioning by the sound of a voice is a huge challenge. "Isolated word re-cognition is easy," Mr. Cho said, "but general continuous recognition is still 10 or 20 years away."

Nonetheless, he believes Korean researchers "are very competitive with Japan and the United States in quite a few areas." He cited handwritten character recognition as an example.

But researchers in such advanced fields are handicapped by time and money. Cash-strapped companies say they have no funds to invest in projects that may take many years to turn out Seoul.

commercially viable results. "The research centers of the chaebol are working two or three years ahead of their business," Mr. Cho said. "We are looking a little further than that, maybe five or 10 years.'

A year or so ago, before the current economic crisis, both government and industry agreed on the value of longterm research. "Now we are experiencing serious financial problems." Mu Cho said. "Projects from industry and government sources are getting fewer. Some of the big chaebol don't want to

continue their research here.

It was only about three years ago, said Mr. Shin, that the bureaucrats in Seoul began to wake up to the importance of long-range research on information technology. "National interest in the software industry was very low," he said. "They thought software couldn't follow advanced countries like the United States and Japan. We Koreans have been very weak in software technology, but now our policymakers ac-

knowledge its importance. After all, "without software other areas could not advance very well," Mr. Shin argued. "Most hardware relies on software technology." That is a lesson researchers here hope will not be forgotten as the country struggles through its financial crisis.

Already at most institutes here, the lights are out in most offices and corridors except when absolutely needed. "It is a new policy." said Mr. Cho, fumbling for a light switch as he showed a visitor around on an overcast day. "We have to save in every way we can.'

DON KIRK is the International Herald Tribune's special correspondent in

# Multimedia Changes Speed Up

Continued from Page 11

instead of paying one of the former local monopolies to put the call through. The completion of a single market by a single currency in 11 EU countries on Jan. 1, 1999, will mean that international calls will be increasingly seen as domestic ones.

At the start of this year, the countries that signed last year's World Trade Organization basic telecommunications agreement began progressively opening their markets to competitive entry and increased foreign investment. The 72 nations that have signed the agreement account for 93 percent of global telecommunications revenue, and threequarters of all international telecommunications traffic now originates in countries which permit competition.

EREGULATION and competition are radically changing the way telecommunications operators do business. Up to now, phone tariffs have been broadly based on the length of a call and the distance of the connection — or whatever the market would bear. Carties were sovereign in their own countries, and established tariffs according to bilaterally negotiated settlement payments. The EU and WTO agreements signaled the end of that system and a move toward a multilateral payments

Technology makes the price of conveying information derisory. A 42-page document sent from New York to Tokyo by fax costs around \$30, but a few cents via Internet over the same lines. International telephone calls, increasing at a rate of 15 percent a year, cost at least three times as much as



Motorola's Startac 8600 VIP cell phone weighs only 3.1 ounces.

domestic calls over the same distance, yet the actual cost of providing the services may be the same.

Industry experts say technology and competition is certain to continue driving down prices, and telecommunications operators will rely for revenue on the value-added services they can provide rather than on the length and distance of communications.

Monopoly suppliers, increasingly confined to developing countries with abysmal levels of phone service, will find it increasingly difficult to maintain their pricing levels. The contrast between deregulated and monopolized markets is creating growing distortions. with monopoly suppliers benefiting largely from an estimated \$10 billion in payment imbalances. The United States alone paid \$5.4 billion more to foreign suppliers than it received in 1996, although part of this imbalance was due to the growth of credit-card and call-back services. It is seeking to put a cap on

such payments. The whole question of tariff structures is coming under revision this week at the ITU's World Telecommunications Policy Forum in Geneva Next week, the ITU, a UN body and the world's oldest inter-government organization, will organize a conference in Valletta Malta to focus on ways to improve access to telecommunications in the developing world.

The ITU argues that what developing countries might lose by giving up their monopoly systems would eventually be more than compensated by the growth in traffic created by deregulation and competition.

In his Los Angeles speech, Mr. Tarjanne said the coming together of telecommunications, broadcasting and computers will have to reconcile three different points of view. The telecommunications industry envisages a multimedia network conveying data, video, voice and text. The computer industry sees a network that will facilitate highspeed data access and retrieval. The broadcasting industry foresees interactive television combining entertainment with home shopping and banking, business services and education.

Such great regulatory, technical and cultural challenges lie ahead that it would be futile to predict the exact shape of future networks.

But Mr. Tarjanné said the boundaries that previously divided industries, people and continents "are breaking down and breaking down fast. Advances in technology, globalization and demands for new, better and cheaper services are bringing about a convergence between previously separate industries and previously separate mar-

BARRY JAMES is on the staff of the International Herald Tribune.

# Weighing Tactics in Info Warfare

Continued from Page 11

puter systems were breached by hackers in one month. But the U.S. officer, who handles the planning for dealing with such problems, said that "everything in our classified systems is redundant. All of it can be compartmentalized and run with another system if we feel one area has been compromised.

Speaking on condition that he not be identified, he said that, in contrast to some alarmist reports, the U.S. military does have detection technologies monitoring all hacking attacks on government computers. Their job is to deter-mine when a pattern of break-ins means that more than just teenage mischievousness; that, in fact, the United States

is under strategic electronic attack. What worries the U.S. high command, he said, are two things: the gap opening between the United States and its allies, and the gap between military

and civil practice.

Now that the United States has gone on the offensive, it has not only refined its spy satellites — digitalization has become so miniaturized that a U.S. company is trying to develop a drone the size of a cigarette pack - but also succeeded in joining the big battle management systems to communications gear light enough to be carried by a foot soldier. The implications of these develop-

ments are momentous. A single infantryman is now able to elude enemy. troops and direct his own fire to deadly effect and often from a safe distance.

#### Hackers also pose a threat to civil systems.

In other words, the stand-off warfare so visible in the Gulf War with precisionguided missiles will also become increasingly prevalent in ground wars.

But U.S. troops may soon find it

impractical to cooperate on the battlefield with NATO allies. None of the European countries, analysts said, is going to be able to afford to develop the information technologies to a degree that will enable its troops to keep up

with American troops, The solution, the U.S. officer said, lies in the very cheapness of computing power these days. "It's going to be possible for us to share with our allies a lot of basic information for almost no cost, thus enabling them to operate with us in the battlefield even though on their

own they would never have the capability to see around them for hundreds of miles the way our forces will do." A less soluble problem, however, goes back to the threat of hackers. "What

worries me are all the civil systems that we depend on in emergencies such as wartime brings, or even just to keep our system going," the admiral said. Another military specialist elaborated: "Suppose you get a virus put into

a system, the kind we call a logic bomb, that makes the codes at a certain point start wrapping around each other so that traffic lights and other utilities stop working in a city where you're trying to land forces?" A third officer cited the dramatic

freeze in civil air traffic for several hours last summer on the day when air traffic control systems went down.

Last autumn a presidential commis-sion, set up to study how to safeguard U.S. electronic infrastructure, reported that the country is dangerously ill-prepared to defend itself against electronic war. It urged greater cooperation between experts in the public and private sectors to help identify patterns in hacker attacks, and greater spending on protection.

JOSEPH FITCHETT is on the staff of the International Herald Tribune.

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ALL STREET

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By Sharon Walsh:

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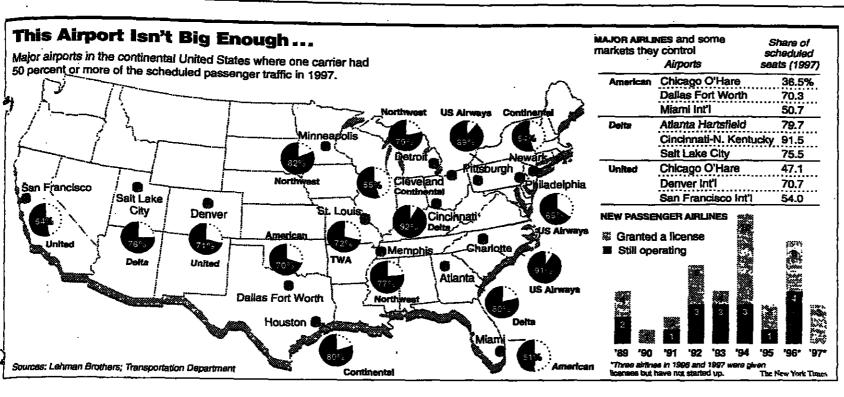
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# Big Airlines Buffeted by Antitrust Turbulence

By Laurence Zuckerman New York Times Service

NEW YORK - Twenty years after Washington deregulated the U.S. airline industry, there is a growing debate over whether the major carriers are unfairly reining in their smaller rivals, curbing their growth and even blocking their access to new markets.

More is at stake than simply the number of carriers flying out of a particular airport — ticket prices tend to drop when competition increases and rise

The Justice Department has started an antitrust investigation of the biggest airlines and the Transportation Department

is on the verge of issuing guidelines that would define for the first time when the government might take action against a carrier for competing unfairly.

In addition, five bills have been introduced in Congress that aim to blunt the dominance of the big carriers and promote competition.

As a result, the lines are quickly being drawn for a bitter battle that pits the airlines against a loose contingent of travel agents, consumer activists, business groups, local communities and the Clinton administration. Both sides claim to be the true champions of deregulation, which everyone agrees has brought affordable air travel to millions of first-time passengers.

The big airlines claim their detractors are trying to turn back the clock and "reregulate" the industry. AMR orp.'s American Airlines Inc. and UAL Corp.'s United Airlines Inc. recently formed the Airline Competition Committee to celebrate the 20th anniversary of deregulation and "educate" the public about its benefits.

Along with Northwest Airlines Inc. and Delta Air Lines Inc., American and United gave \$1.1 million last year in federal campaign contributions, accounting for 72 percent of all airline-industry donations, according to a study by the Center for Responsive Politics. Critics say deregulation has been exploited by the major air carriers to fend off new competitors, and that political contributions represent an effort to remove regulation's last vestiges. Such critics are clearly eager for the government to take a stronger hand in helping new low-cost airlines.

"Our goal is to expand deregulation to meet the original intent of the Congress," said Ivan Michael Schaeffer, president of Woodside Travel Trust, a consortium of 132 travel agencies that cater mostly to businesses. "No one in 1978 believed that deregulation would lead to more concentration of the industry,' What corporate travel agents, busi-

nesses and many communities are most concerned about are the so-called fortress hubs at key airports around the United States that are dominated by the large carriers.

In addition to United's pre-eminence in Denver, it and American control 84 percent of the available seats in Chicago. Northwest Airlines has 79 percent of the capacity in Detroit and 82 percent in Minneapolis. Delta flies 80 percent of the seats out of Atlanta.

As the carriers have tightened their grip on major airports, the prices for walk-on fares, which are mostly purchased by business travelers, have

See AIRLINES, Page 21

# U.S. Senate Panel **Backs IMF Funding**

## But It Wants Changes in Conditions of Loans

By Eric Schmitt New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — A Senate panel has approved \$18 billion in financing for the International Monetary Fund, but only if the Fund formally votes to make major changes in the way it lends money to nations in distress.

The Treasury secretary, Robert Rubin, as well as several Republicans and Democrats, immediately voiced strong opposition to the changes in the emergency spending bill, which was approved 26-2 by the Senate Appropriations Committee on Tuesday.

'We are in agreement with many of those objectives as policies that the United States should vigorously promote at the IMF," Mr. Rubin said in a letter to Senator Ted Stevens, Republican of Alaska, chairman of the committee. But Mr. Rubin said many of the steps needed to achieve the objectives 'are extremely impractical, to the point of being genuinely unworkable."

The financing for the IMF, one of President Bill Clinton's top foreignpolicy priorities, also faces a problem in the House, which has held up its version of the bill until the White House agrees to an anti-abortion provision that Mr.

Clinton opposes. The chances for Senate passage of the nancing for the IMF.

bill are uncertain, but some Senators

said a compromise was possible. The committee bill approves \$3.5 billion in new borrowing authority and an additional \$14.5 billion in the IMF's capital base. The procedural requirements apply only to the \$14.5 billion.

Under the bill, the Treasury secretary would have to certify that the Fund's board had passed resolutions requiring borrowers to fulfill their international trade obligations, to avoid discriminating between domestic and foreign creditors and to end preferential lending and subsidies to favored enterprises.

Administration officials had said they could accept the substance of the conditions but that Washington could not compel the 182-nation IMF to pass specific resolutions.

Under a veiled veto threat from Mr. Clinton, the committee dropped a provision that would have prohibited the Federal Communications Commission from spending money to enforce free air time for political candidates.

The committee's vote drew criticism from several Republicans on the For-eign Relations Committee. Senators Chuck Hagel of Nebraska, Rod Grams of Minnesota and Pat Roberts of Kansas said that the procedural requirements could jeopardize the badly needed fi-

# Rumors Hit Northrop Stock

WASHINGTON - Northrop Grumman Corp. shares fell sharply Wednesday on reports that the Justice Department had rejected Lockheed Martin Corp.'s latest divestiture proposal, raising doubts about Lockheed's proposed \$12 billion takeover

The proposal did not go far enough to meet the government's requirement that all Northrop's electronics businesses, with annual sales between \$3 billion and \$4 billion, be sold to satisfy antitrust concerns raised by the Justice and Defense Departments, according to people familiar with the talks. Lock-heed offered to shed its missile countermeasure operations, a person familiar with the negotiations said. Federal antitrust authorities had cited these as a major area of antitrust concern.

'It's clear that Lockheed was dead right in labeling the government fun-damentally opposed, "said Robert Chapman at Chapman Capital LLC. "It's going to take an act of God to bring the two sides close enough on a divestiture plan to save this one."

In late trading, Northrop's shares fell \$1.125, to \$108.875. Lockheed shares fell 43.75 cents, to 115.9375.

#### WALL STREET WATCH

# A Wall Street Bull Stays the Course

By Sharon Walsh Washington Post Service

tell that to the market oracle Abby 3.24 points, at 1,083.69. Joseph Cohen or those investors who hang on her every word.

the bull will keep on running. Low inflation and a strong U.S.

economy will continue to fuel a soaring stock market, she said Tuesday, noting that she expected the Dow Jones in-Wednesday — to climb to 9,300 by the end of the year. That would be a 17

NEW YORK — Nobody can predict at 1,783.81,3.24 points, in late trading difficult year for earnings growth." what the stock market will do, but don't : Wednesday and the S&P 500 was up

"We see no recession on the horizon, Ms. Cohen, co-head of Goldman, mance in the global economy," Ms. envisioning that movie of people climb-Sachs & Co.'s investment policy com- Cohen wrote. "Inflation is unlikely to ing Mount Everest. As they get higher, mittee and Wall Street's current pro- rise quickly or soon." She added, the air gets thinner and thinner. We are in tinue to report ongoing gains in productivity."

Not every analyst and strategist on Wall Street agrees, although many admit grudging respect for one who has been so right for so long. Ms. Cohen's dustrial average --- which was up 13.45 coherent and consistent arguments points, at 8,763.44, in late trading about how the economy is strong enough to withstand successive blows has earned her a loyal following.

Still, there is a murmur of incredulity

500-stock index should hit 1,150, she timism about the future?" asked Charles said in a report to Goldman Sachs Hill, research director at First Call Corp. clients. The Nasdaq was up 4.51 points in Boston. "We think it will be a very

"Abby Cohen has been dead on in this market," said David Jones, chief economist at Aubrey G. Lanston & Co., and can envision strong U.S. perfor- a New York securities firm. "But I keep a rarefied atmosphere in this market -

and it's getting less and less oxygen."
Hugh Johnson, chief investment officer at First Albany Corp., said he was worried the market had turned speculative, with people borrowing money to buy overvalued shares, but he said it did not pay to disagree with Ms. Co-hen, who had been right for so long.

"The trend in stocks has been up and signals for a bear market don't exist," The Nasdaq composite index should from those who believe the market is he said. "I say this with my fingers reach 1,900, and the Standard & Poor's overvalued. "Is this really realistic opcrossed."

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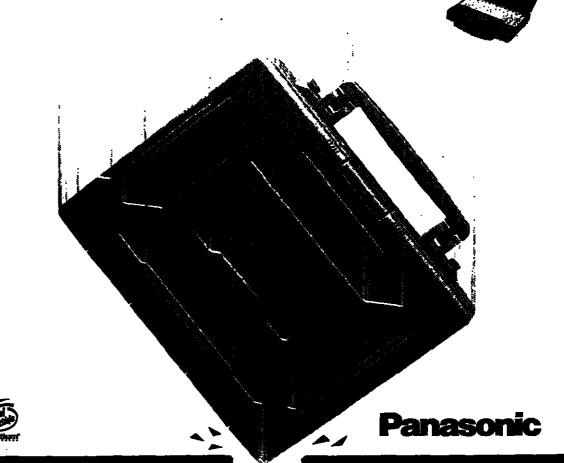
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# Ladies' Investing Recipe Emerges Half-Baked

By Cindy Skrzycki Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - Tsk. Tsk. The Ladies made a mistake.

The Beardstown Ladies, who have published five books about their investment prowess, now say they did their sums wrong and have apologized to investors, many of whom have tried to emulate their astute stock picking.

The astronomical returns of which the Ladies boasted are off by about 14.3 percentage points. The rate that the gray-haired ladies — whose avcrage age is 70 — bragged about was a whopping 23.4 percent return on investment. It seems the returns are closer to a very modest 9.1 percent.

The Ladies did earn 23.4 percent from 1991 to 1992. But their books claim that figure as the average annual return from 1984 to 1993. The cor-

to diance on Page,

rected 9.1 percent return over that period pales by comparison with the 15.73 percent average annual return on the Dow Jones industrial average.

It is not clear how the error will affect book sales or the popularity of the Ladies, who dispense recipes for dishes such as Ann's Sour Cream Noodle Bake along with common-sense Mid-western advice about saving and in-vesting. Two Ladies reached Tuesday for comment would not speculate.

The 14 members of the Beardstown Business and Professional Women's Investment Club in Beardstown, Illinois, have become celebrities. They have been guests on national television shows, traveled the lecture circuit and hit the best-seller list.

Chicago Magazine blew the Ladies' claims apart in a lengthy story published this month. The magazine came across an innocent-looking disclaimer

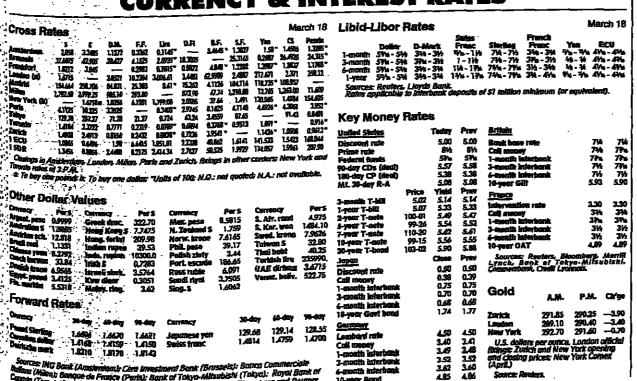
in the 1995 edition of "The Beardstown Ladies' Common-Sense Investment Guide" that said the club included the monthly dues that members pay into the fund in calculating its rate of return. Mutual funds, by comparison, consider stock appreciation, and never new con-

tributions, in their rates of return. Hyperion, a unit of Walt Disney Co. that publishes the Ladies' books was concerned enough about the discrepancy to hire the accounting firm Price Waterhouse LLP to straighten out the

Ladies ledgers.
The Ladies also hired their own accountant and now disavow their disclaimer about the dues. Betty Sinnock, their treasurer said Tuesday that Price Waterhouse "clarified that we did not include dues when determining investment gains for any period."

So what did happen? The Ladies blame a "computer input" error.

## **CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES**



#### **Very briefly:**

■ BankBoston Corp. expects losses of \$70 million in loans made by an employee from its international private banking office in New York to several relatives and personal-investment companies associated with members of that family. MCI Communications Corp. and Siemens Business

Communications Systems Inc. signed a five-year agreement that would bring \$2.1 billion in business to MCL Southdown Inc. will acquire Medusa Corp. for \$1 billion

in stock, expanding its capacity to make cement as prices rise on a wave of private and government construction. American Business Information Inc. offered \$850 million in cash and assumed debt for Metromail Corp., and sued to halt the direct marketer's planned acquisition by Great Uni-

 McDonald's Corp. will spend \$150 million on a new foodpreparation system to help it recover from a slump. Bloombers

### NASD Approves AMEX Merger

WASHINGTON — The National Association of Securities Dealers board approved a plan to acquire the American Stock Exchange and merge it with NASD's Nasdaq stock market, a regulator familiar with the vote said. The NASD has proposed running the markets as separate

but linked operations in an attempt to compete more effectively with the New York Stock Exchange. But besides approval by the AMEX board, which was expected to vote on the plan Wednesday, the AMEX's 864 members must agree to the deal. The members, whose ranks include investors and current and former brokers, specialists, and options traders, are expected to vote on the proposal this spring. A NASD spokesman declined to comment on the vote.

The Securities and Exchange Commission also will consider any related rule proposals that would change the way the exchanges operate.

Software General Rolls Out a New Weapon in War on Spam By John Markoff

New York Times Service

AN FRANCISCO - The most popular software for routing and delivering email on the Internet is being armed with a powerful set of tools to fight the unsolicited junk electronic mail known as spam, which is increasingly bedeviling cyberspace.

The war over spann has pitted computer users, privacy rights activists and Internet service providers against companies like Cyber Promotions and Quantum Communications, which fire off millions of advertisements each day in the form of e-mail messages.

Not only are most spam messages unwelcome, but their sheer volume - now estimated to account for about 10 percent of all global computer network must pass, slowing the entire system.

software used on about 75 percent of the

computers that route e-mail messages to their proper recipients on the Internet, is being fitted for battle with the spammers.

On Tuesday, Sendmail's author, Eric Allman, announced the addition of anti-spam tools to version 8.9 of the software as part of his plan to create a company that will continue to develop new features for the free version of the program and sell software and support services to business users.

Mr. Allman created Sendmail while he was working as a Unix programmer at the University of California at Berkeley in 1981 and made it freely available to the thousands of administrators and computer researchers who have built and who maintain the Internet.

In recent years, the program, which has been developed based on the Internet's trae-mail worldwide — frequently clogs the dition of cooperation, has been used by spam-electronic pipes through which all data on the mers to stuff the mailboxes of Internet users with messages promoting get-rich-quick schemes, weight-loss plans and advertise-Now, Sendmail, the electronic post office ments for pornography, among other unwanted come-ons.

The new version of Sendmail includes a variety of anti-spam features, including the ability to reject mail from known spam addresses and a mechanism that will force spam-

mers to disclose their real internet addresses. Version 8.9 also offers the ability to check automatically a continuously changing list of spammer's addresses called the Realtime. Blackhole List and to reject messages coming from such addresses before they are stored on the mail computer's hard drive.

Internet specialists said that by arming administrators with these new anti-spam weapons, Mr. Allman's software would make the first serious dent in the rising deluge of junk e-mail.

The problem is becoming serious for some of the largest Internet service providers in the United States. For example, officials at UUN-ET, the big Internet provider that is part of WorldCom Inc., said that at the end of 1998 they had seen their mail volume double, and they estimated that at certain times, as much as 50 percent of that traffic was spam.

"It's a real war," said Kyle Jones, a senior systems analyst at UUNET.

California Lawrence

price—\$500 per unsolicited message. That is the penalty proposed in an anti-spam being heard this week in a space i committee. More generally, it is the latest shot in what appears to be a growing assault on unsolicited e-mail advertisers.

Over the next two weeks, a consumer protection committee of the California legislature is scheduled to hear three bills. They are the first attempts to regulate spam in California, which does not presently have a law that addresses unsolicited e-mail.

There are several bills pending before the S. Congress to regulate spam, including one that would ban it. Last summer, Nevada became the first state to regulate spam; Washington state recently passed its own bill.

# **Chase Plans** To Eliminate **4,500 Jobs**

NEW YORK - Cost-cutting plans will eliminate 4,500 jobs at Chase Manhattan Corp., 50 percent more than America's largest bank had previously announced.

Some of the savings derived from the cuts will be plowed back into growth areas of the business and used to "create a substantial number of new jobs" bringing actual job losses down to 2,200, Thomas Labrecque, Chase's president and chief operating officer, said.

The cuts will save about \$460 million a year, Chase said, and the bank will take a charge against profits of about \$320 million, after taxes, for the first quarter to pay for severance and other expenses tied to the lavoffs, which are the biggest since Chase merged with Chemical Banking Corp. in 1996.

Chase also said it might add workers to its mortgage-servicing and credit-card units.

Chase reiterated a plan, announced earlier, to create a single national consumer-services network, as well as a plan to streamline the bank's management structure and speed decision-making. The layoffs will be made over 18

months. About half of the job cuts will be made in the New York City metropolitan area, where about half of Chase's 69,000 employees worldwide work.

# Merrill Takeover Talk Lifts Stocks

NEW YORK -- Speculation

over a takeover of the investment bank Merrill Lynch helped lift U.S. stocks into record territory Wednesday.

Merrill Lynch shares shot up on rumors that Chase Manhattan would bid for the finance company. The increase offset setbacks among paper and retail stocks and new concerns related to the Asian financial crisis.

In late trading, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 13.45 points, at 8,763.44, while the broader-based Standard & Poor's affect U.S. companies in our ex-500-stock index was up 3.24 ports and imports." points, at 1,083.69.

The technology-heavy Nasdaq Composite index was up 4.51 points at 1,783.81, despite a warning by Bay Networks that its profit would not meet Wall Street ex-

NEW YORK - The dollar surged

against the yen Wednesday after an official in Tokyo said the govern-

ment was unlikely to cut taxes, fuel-

ing expectations the Japanese econ-

Plunging Japanese stocks and re-cord-low bond yields also kept in-

vestors wary of yen-denominated

assets and the Japanese currency.

orny was sliding into recession.

Paper companies fell after sev- Manhattan's cost-cutting measures eral analysts lowered earnings es- that led it to announce 4,500 job timates for International Paper, cit- cuts over the next 18 months.

#### 3 P.M. SNAPSHOT

ing lower sales in Asia and lower prices from Asian producers.

'Asia's going to be with us for quite some time," said Vincent Farrell Jr., chief investment officer at Spears, Benzak, Salomon & Farrell. While the decline in financial markets there may have passed, he said, "the aftermath will be long and arduous, and will

Retailers declined after a report that store sales fell 0.9 percent in ket side," said Patrick Dimick of the last week, a sign that the U.S. UBS Securities. economy might be slowing.

Brokerages gained on the Merrill

of Republic National Bank of New

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

York. In late trading, the dollar was

at 130.065 yen, up from 128.82 yen

Taku Yamasaki, an official of the

on Tuesday.

March 18, 1998

"What Chase is saying is despite all the mergers and all the layoffs," Mr. Farrell said, "there's still more to be done. And if there are costs to be cut, that's going to show up as a positive in earnings."

Bonds fell after a Federal Reserve Board report rekindled concern that the robust U.S. labor market could quicken inflation. In a regional outlook, the Fed said growth was moderating in some parts of the country and inflation pressures remained "eerily calm." "It was a little surprising the

sense of urgency on the labor mar-The benchmark 30-year Trea

ury bond fell 9/32 to 103 1/32, takeover speculation and expectations that banks will copy Chase 5.88 percent. (Bloomberg, AP)

# Yen Falls as Hopes for Tax Cut Recede

"People are generally pessimistic doubted the party would include in-about the yen," said Ricardo Gomes come-tax cuts in its next economic package, which will be delayed past ts expected March 20 release.

Against other major currencies, the dollar rose to 1.8256 DM from 1.8189 DM, to 6.1201 French francs from 6.0985 francs and to 1.4910 Swiss francs from 1.4793 francs. The pound fell to \$1.6718 from Liberal Democratic Party, said he \$1.6743.

FF500.000 - pts of 100 pct Jun 98 104.16 103.92 104.16 -- 0.04 112.683 Sep 98 103.64 103.57 103.76 -- 0.08 76

# **Bridge Sees** 'Efficiencies' At Data Wire Property Estonia

tion Systems Inc. signaled Wednesday that it may lay off workers after it completes a deal to have Described in the completes a deal to have Described in the complete and the latest the latest the latest the completes a deal to have Described in the complete and the latest t completes a deal to buy Dow Jones Markets, a financial-information service, from Dow Jones & Co.

The publishing group agreed late Tuesday to sell its unprofitable unit. formerly known as Telerate, to Bridge for \$510 million in cash and

The terms of the agreement call for Bridge, which is expanding rapidly, to pay \$360 million in cash and \$150 million in five-year, convertible preferred stock. Bridge is owned by Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe, a closely held investment

firm.
"There are probably going to be some efficiencies that Bridge will take advantage of," a spokesman for the company said when asked about any planned layoffs.

But, he added, "We are going to

run that unit intact. There are no plans today to go out and lay a bunch of people off. There are no systematic plans for any layoffs.'

With the sale, Dow Jones sheds a money-losing unit that led it to take a \$922.5 million charge in the fourth quarter to write down the value of its initial \$1.6 billion purchase of Tel-

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# **AMEX**

Wednesday's 3 P.M. The 300 most traded stocks of the day.

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# U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

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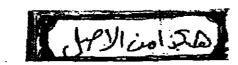
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# the area of the long of the long of California Lawmaker, Fight by The same that the same to be same **EU Unveils Aid Plan** F and the state of For Eastern Members

Richer States Oppose New Contributions

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Jacques Santer, on Wednesday

Jacques Santer, on

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thave a least state of the stat The plan, which must be approved by the 15 EU governments, angered countries like Germany, the Netherlands and Austria, which say they pay too much into the EU budget and want national contributions to be reassessed.

The so-called structural funds were created in 1988, aimed at ·Efficiencie ironing out major discrepancies in living standards in different parts of the EU. More than two-thirds of the money goes to under-At Data Will developed regions for major projects such as road building, industrial conversions, business support and waste treatment.

The plan envisions contributions to Poland, Hungary, Estonia. Slovenia and the Czech Republic In addition, three countries that are expected to be part of the European Union's single currency from the start of next year should continue to receive generous EU structural aid, the commission said. The three are Spain,

Portugal and Ireland. Several regions that now benefit, such as Corsica and Spain's Valencia region, are destined to lose all or part of their grants because they have made major economic improvements.

The commission also targeted the EU's Common Agricultural

Policy and its regional development funds, which together absorb three-quarters of its 85 billion Ecu

(\$92.6 billion) annual budget. It proposed significant cuts in EU subsidies for cereals, beef and dairy products.

Mr. Santer and Regional Af-fairs Commissioner Monika Wulf-Mathies forecast that it would be possible to provide regional aid of 275 billion Ecus between 2000 and 2006 without raising national contributions to the budget above the current maximum of 1.27 percent of gross national product

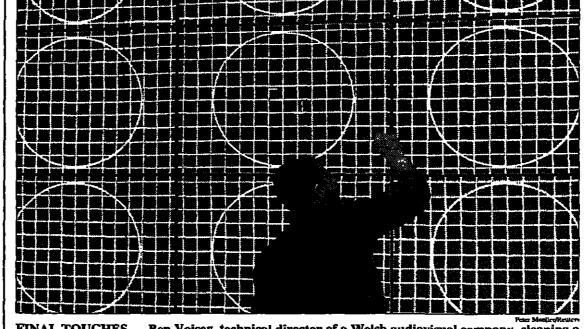
Finance Minister Theo Waigel of Germany said that was unrealistic. "The EU made no mention of balancing out payments and if you ask me, they're sticking their head in the sand and this can't continue," he told Bloomberg News in Kalmar, Sweden.

Mr. Santer said he hoped to have agreement on the plan by spring and intended to hold the member states to their agreement. (Reuters, Bloomberg)

Credit Ratings to Rise

Six countries likely to participate in European monetary union are set to get their credit grades raised to the top-notch Aaa by Moody's Investors Service, the agency said Wednesday, Reuters reported from London.

The agency placed on review for possible upgrade the country ceilings for foreign currency bonds and deposits of Belgium, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Spain, which it currently rates



FINAL TOUCHES — Ben Voisey, technical director of a Welsh audiovisual company, cleaning a test screen at the Cebit computer fair in Hannover, which is opening to the public Thursday.

#### Belgium Unloads Half Its Gold Reserves Very briefly:

Thomson to Sell Travel Unit

the metal's price sharply lower amid concern there would be a torrent of

they adopt a common currency. Gold fell \$3.40, to \$290.40 in London, after Belgium announced it the United States and Europe, cenhad sold 9.6 million ounces that it tral banks do not see gold as an asset said it would not need when its franc needed to guarantee paper money, is absorbed by the euro next year.

"There's a knee-jerk reaction when a central bank sells gold be-cause people ask, If Belgium doesn't want gold, why should I bold on to it?" 's said Leonard Kaplan, chief bullion trader at LFG Bullion Services in Chicago.

BRUSSELS — The Belgian cen-tral bank, Fons Verplaetse, said the tral bank said Wednesday that it had bank had no plans to sell any of its sold half of its gold reserves, sending remaining stock of 300 metric tons

of gold.

Belgium is the third central bank, sales by European central banks as after Australia and Argentina, to announce a major sale since July.

With inflation under control in the United States and Europe, cenand the metal does not offer returns

to match other investments. Each announcement has pushed gold down, and the metal is about 20

more closely on publishing.

percent lower than it was at the end of 296 and just above an 18-year low. For the gold market, central bank sales are "like water torture treatment," said Graham French of M&G Investment Management in London. Mr. Verplaetse said the sale

would have no influence on Belgium's budget deficit. Belgium received about \$310 an

ounce for the gold, according to analysts' calculations. The sale yielded 110.24 billion Belgian francs (\$2.93 billion) of unspecified foreign currencies, the central bank (Bloomberg, AFX, AFP)

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• Italy will join, as an observer, the four-nation committee that oversees Airbus Industrie as a step toward becoming a full member in the airplane consortium.

• Italy's industrial output rose a greater-than-expected 1 percent in January from the previous month, lifted by the mineralprocessing industry and motor-vehicle production.

• Pearson PLC said it would end its television joint venture with British Broadcasting Corp. as the state-owned broadcaster prepared to sign an agreement to work with Discovery Communications Inc. in international markets.

• Microsoft Corp. and British Telecommunications PLC said they would start testing an Internet TV service in a deal that heralded the first move by the world's largest software company into Europe's television market.

• France Telecom SA said it posted a record profit of 6 billion francs (\$982 million) in the second half of 1997, helped by lower debt-financing costs and a decline in charges related to its initial public offering in October.

• France's stock-market regulator, the Commission des Operations de Bourse, urged companies to report in their 1998; annual reports how they were tackling information-systems problems related to the year 2000.

 Spain's second fixed-line telecommunications operators Retevision SA, said it had completed the acquisition of two. Spanish Internet providers, Servicom and Redes TB.

• Dutch unemployment rose to 4.9 percent in the quarter ended Feb. 28, up from 4.8 percent in the previous quarter, but. the robust economy is currently creating jobs at a near-record. pace, the government said.

 Carlsberg A/S, the Danish brewer, said it planned to dismiss 450 workers in Denmark as part of a cost-cutting plan.

• Kingfisher PLC said its pretax profit before exceptional items rose 29 percent to £505.5 million (\$844 million) in the financial year ended Jan. 31. Bloomberg, Reuters

#### - vel. nela gaz Privatized British Rail Is No Better, Panel Says a projection

LONDON - British rail companies that were sold to investors in mes that were acre 1996 have not performed better than Par z. their state-owned predecessor, British Rail, a cross-party committee of legislators said Wednesday.

The House of Commons Transin lone at port Committee called for a strengthened regulatory system following complaints from passengers 

Wednesday, March 18

Prices in local currencies.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

nies' owners made large profits.

Britain's largely subsidized rail network was broken up into dozens of regional companies and sold by the former Conservative government, mostly to local managements or existing transportation companies.
"In spite of the large sums spent

on the administrative costs of pri- is considering tougher regulation.

4095.24 4059.45 335 56.40 303 32.50 149 591 149 72.20 261 900 213 159.40

120.50 70.85 70.85 1265 38.70 808 81.30 808 840.50 95.50 112.50 112.50 127.50 127.70 127.70 121.50 71.27 86 1270 528 1285 39.50 81.80 81.81 640.59 N.T. 734.51 112.55 112.5

that trains continued to run late or vatization and on operating subsidy were canceled, while the rail compa- in recent years, it's clear that the privatized passenger railway hasn't yet performed significantly better than British Rail," the panel said.

The Labour Party, which tried to block the rail sell-off when it was in opposition, has said it will not attempt to bring railroad companies back into national ownership, but it

percent of all vacations sold through British travel agents, making it the market leader. Thomson, which is based in Toronto, said purchasers of the dollars, said net income in 1997 travel group's shares, to be sold rose 30 percent, to \$536 million.

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LONDON — Thomson Corp. said Wednesday it would sell ives" that analysts said might in-Thomson Travel Group PLC to clude discounts on vacations. investors for as much as £1.5 bil-A pricing prospectus will be issued in April Analysts estimated lion (\$2.5 billion) as it focuses the company was worth between Thomson Travel accounts for 27 £1.3 billion and £1.5 billion.

on the London Stock Exchange in

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Thomson Travel said 1997 operating profit rose 32 percent, to \$137 million. Thomson Corp., which reports its earnings in U.S.

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Boer said, were currency volatility,

the unknown number of non-per-

forming loans and the general

crisis environment affecting much

After the dollar soared from 25

baht in July to beyond 50 baht in

By Thomas Crampton
International Herald Tribune

BANGKOK — The Dutch banking giant ABN-AMRO Hold-ing NV, exploring a new model for buying into Asia's troubled econ-omies, said Wednesday that it would purchase Thailand's 11th largest commercial bank, the Bank of Asia, on a buy-now, set-theprice-later plan.

In Seoul, meanwhile, the German industrial giant BASF AG said it would pay \$600 million for a division of Daesang Group, the biggest sale by a South Korean conglomerate since Asia's economic crisis began in July.

The two deals were a fresh sign that the sale of Asia's discounted assets may have begun in earnest. They follow a recent slew of big Asian commitments by investors including Prince Walid ibn Talal of Saudi Arabia, the financier George Soros and Michael Jackson.

ABN-AMRO said it had agreed to buy a majority stake in the Bank allows the buyer and seller to conof Asia, but it would adjust the price later according to the value of the bank in two years.

"Basically the deal is a case of buy now and pay now, but adjust chief executive of ABN-AMRO Asia-Pacific Pte.

The last time ABN-AMRO used a similar formula was in South America during the debt



Ton de Boer of ABN-AMRO.

crisis, and I believe this is the first time it has ever been used in Asia by anyone buying a bank," Mr. de

This style of investment, which clude a deal without actually agreeing on a final price, may gain wider ceptance as investors search for deals in Asia, analysts said.

Despite sharp falls in regional the price later when conditions are currencies, Asian owners have more normal," said Ton de Boer, kept the price of their companies relatively high, while foreign investors remain reluctant to convert money into extremely volatile currencies

Other deals in the last few days January, it has recently retreated to deals completely.

include China Development Corp. of Taiwan spending \$15 million to buy a 59 percent stake in a unit of about 40 baht. This volatility, com-bined with plunging stock values and deteriorating economic con-ditions, has made it hard to es-Bangkok Bank PCL. Meanwhile, timate how many of Thailand's heavily indebted companies will be American International Group Inc. announced plans for a \$1 billion able to repay their outstanding fund to invest in troubled Asian

In preparation for a possible deal, Thailand's second-largest bank, Thai Farmer's Bank, an-"In these conditions, an assessment of the fair value of the bank is extremely difficult," Mr. de Boer said. "It is also a great carrot for management. I will be very happy nounced Wednesday it would amend its articles of association to to pay a great deal in the second tranche because it means the bank allow up to 49 percent foreign Pending completion of due di-ligence, ABN-AMRO will pay 7.5 billion baht (\$187.3 million) for is doing well and Thailand's econ-

omy is recovering."

The practice of setting a price but adjusting it later has been long newly issued shares representing 75 percent of the Bank of Asia's used in developed economies, especially when companies have un-But in order to allow a "fair known liabilities of assets, such as aluation" of the Thai bank during an outstanding lawsuit or an uncalmer economic conditions, it was proved product with tremendous potential.

But it is extremely rare in Asia for deals to be left open-ended, because local banks have little experience with such forms of financing, and foreign investors fear items may be hidden off the balance sheet.

"This is an unusual and creative deal, but there is a lot of individual trust involved," said one foreign banker based in Thailand.

"In our experience, you can never define all the possible scenarios two or three years down the road. We don't like to be forced into arbitration, so we like to close

# Bayer Scuttles Investor's Asia Taiwan Plant, Citing Lack Of Guaranties

TAIPEI - Bayer AG said Wednesday that legal and political con-cerns had led if to abandon a Taiwan petrochemical project that would have been the largest foreign in-vesument in the island.

The 50 billion Taiwan dollar (\$1.54 billion) project will be re-located to the United States, according to a Bayer Taiwan vice president, John Chen.

The German company cited a lack of legal security after three years of frustrating political wrangling and \$10 million in preparatory work over the plant proposed for central Taichung County. We consider this project has failed," Bayer said, adding, "We have no more confidence in the legal

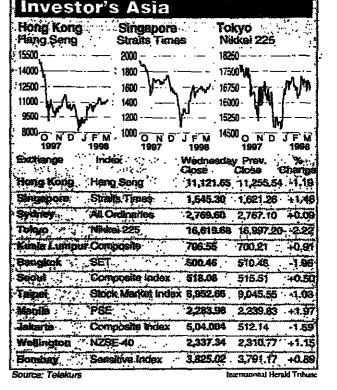
permitting framework in Taiwan. Bayer said a key factor in its decision was Taichung County's stalling of construction permits pending the result of a local ref-

erendum planned for June 13. The German Trade Office in Taiwan, the European Council of Commerce and Trade and the American Chamber of Commerce had backed the project and warned that its problems could harm Taiwan's investment-friendly reputation.

"It's a loss to the local people and the government," said Chiang Pinkung, chairman of the cabinet-level Council for Economic Planning and Development

'I had supported Bayer's investment because I had hoped it would enhance the development of our petrochemical industry and improve the industry's safety standards." he

Taichung officials who were elected in November on an anti-Bayer platform could not be reached for comment. Taichung's leadership belongs to the opposition Democratic Progressive Party, which said the plant would add toxic pollution to the already polluted Taichung (Rewers, Bloomberg)



#### **Very briefly:**

 Indonesia's new minister for state-owned companies, Tanri Abeng, said President Suharto had ordered him to sell off unhealthy state-owned firms. He said the performance of the country's 164 state-owned companies deferiorated last year, with 70 of them considered unhealthy or less healthy.

• CITIC Pacific Ltd. reported a lower-than-expected 8 percent rise in 1997 net profit, to 7.38 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$952.7 million), and warned it faced a difficult year in 1998.

 Hong Kong's Independent Commission Against Corruption charged three employees of Sing Tao Holdings Ltd. for inflating the circulation of the company's Hong Kong Standard newspaper in an effort to defraud advertisers.

• South Korea's current-account surplus hit a record high of \$3.87 billion in February, the fourth consecutive monthly gain, the central Bank of Korea said.

• Moody's Investors Service Inc. placed Japan Airlinés Co.'s A3 long-term unsecured debt and counterparty ratings under review with negative implications.

 Midopa Co., South Korea's supermarket giant, was declared insolvent by creditor banks amid mounting debt and lagging sales.

• Japan's Ministry of Finance will question banks about their lending practices in line with a request by Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, a senior ministry official said.

• Japan's domestic output of electronics products is likely to grow less than the 3.5 percent that had been forecast for 1998 due to sluggish demand for consumer electronics, an industry

#### nomic and Trade Commission ministry will oversee. "Most of these industries are will be Sheng Huaren, 63, general

Continued from Page 17

soared to record levels. Many members of Congress, along with local officials, complain that the lack of competition is hampering economic developafford to be located where travel

costs are too high.

modeled on the success of Southwest Airlines Co.

**AIRLINES:** A Growing Debate Over Competition

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solution has been the introduc- turned many passengers away tion of more low-cost airlines from low-cost airlines. Applications to start new discount carriers slowed to a trickle. Critics of the big carriers be-

lieve that the Valujet disaster was seen as an opportunity by

fares at hub airports dominated by a single carrier were 22 per-crashed in Florida, killing all atory behavior: cutting fares and

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# 2 Hyundai Units Suffer

SEOUL - The automaking subsidiary of the South Korean conglomerate Hyundai Group reported Wednesday that its net profit shrunk in 1997, citing foreign-exchange losses and market problems. Hyundai Motor Co.'s profit

dropped by 46.4 percent, to 46.5 billion won (\$31.7 million), which the automaker attributed to a saturated domestic market. Another Hyundai subsidiary, Hy-

undai Electronics Industries Co., posted a net loss of 183.5 billion won for 1997. In 1996, the company had reported a net profit of 81.8 billion won. Hyundai Motor shares finished

down 1,000 won at 23,400, and Hyundai Electronics shares fell 400 to Hyundai Motor said the grim South Korean economic outlook made any prediction on profit for

this year impossible.

The automaker had 11.7 trillion won in revenue in 1997, against 11.5 trillion in 1996, but it resorted to nointerest sales promotions for the domestic market, cutting into profit.

moderate and exports were favorable thanks to the weak won, excessive sales for non-interest install-ments damaged us," a company

Yang Young Shik, automobile analyst with KLB Securities, said Hyundai's steep decline in pretax profit, to 46.6 billion won in 1997 from 374.3 billion won in 1996, reflected huge foreign-exchange losses on the company's foreign debt, which stood at 1.8 trillion won as of the end of June 1997.

Hyundai Electronics attributed its loss to plunging chip prices and the plunge of the won, which pushed its foreign-exchange losses to 207.8 billion won. (AFP, Bloomberg)

■ Daesang Sells Unit to BASF

Daesang Group sold its main profit-making resin business to BASF AG of Germany on Wednesday, Agence France-Presse reported. The \$600 million deal is the largest sale to a foreign company by a South Korean conglomerate.

The deal is part of our effort to improve our financial status and restructure our business lines," Chairman Koh Doo Mo said.

"The decision to sell our most spokesman said. BASF said the unit

# Economic Czar for China

Corporate Manager Named to Head Superministry duties of the ministries of coal,

BELIING - Prime Minister Zhu Rongji on Wednesday named a corporate chief to lead a new economics superministry, sending a signal to state-owned companies that they must prosper or perish.
The head of the new State Eco-

manager of China National Pet-Asia to increase profits last year. Sheng will lead will take over the

Alexandra Conroy, a chemicals analyst for ING Barings, said Mr. Sheng's experience with market competition would be useful in dealing with the industries that the

machinery, metallurgical in-

dustry, internal trade, light in-

dustry, textiles and chemicals.

going to be thrust into the regional rochemical Corp., the country's competitive arena, if not the inbiggest oil concern. Known as ternational, and many of them Sinopec, the company was one of may not be ready to face it," she the few chemical companies in said "Sinopec has now had some experience with facing that kind The economics ministry Mr. of market competition head on." (Bloomberg, Reuters)

## Household Savings Decline in Japan

lucrative business, which accounted time in four years, signaling that the nation's economic slump had spread to

1997 from the year before, a decline of 1.3 percent, the Management and accounts for a fifth of global sales of lysine, an additive used in animal feed to promote growth.

1797 How me year before, a decime of 1.5 percent, me management and accounts for a fifth of global sales of lysine, an additive used in animal feed to promote growth.

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1797 How me year before, a decime of 1.5 percent, me management and the management and the

# TOKYO - Japan's average household savings fell in 1997 for the first

for 20 percent of the group's total one of the pillars of the economy. sales last year, was unavoidable," a Average savings per household fell to 16.35 million yen (\$126,350) in

pact of deregulation found that

competition saved \$6.3 billion a other small competitors before

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they became a threat — a charge that the big carriers deny. A potent way of driving out

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Since 1996, Bath has also mands offering modular MBAs that can be tailored to Ms. Brook says.

with the staff.

individuals' specific needs. same field.

Among the 93 business- Commerce de Grenoble and Amanda Brook, the Uni- mer courses in business and average, more than 20,000 ternational School in the The teaching faculty is people from 21 countries the Singapore Institute of versity's External Relations management studies, the managers enroll in the Hampstead area of north Manager, explains that such a London School of Economuniversities and the business them are from KPMG client facilities, workshops and aca-program is aimed at over- ics (LSE) is offering two sescommunity around the companies. "The word about demic support. The use of coming the problems en- sions focusing on globaliz-world, while participants this MBA is getting around, electronic management also countered with part-time ation and financial

A special series of lec- ber of staff on a regular basis until mid-July, includes tres, called "Henley Ladder makes such courses difficult courses on "The New tional Business at the Ecole Kirkby, KPMG's European tures, called "Henley Ladder makes such courses difficult courses on "The New has adopted the theme to Success" has also been to reconcile with the de-launched in China, where the mands of modern business," omy, "The New World trepreneurship and Innovacollege currently has nine she says, "and regular even—Trade Order" and "The Pol-tion" this year. It is part of the ing or weekend work can ities of Global Finance." dents, six of them in Shang- have a negative impact on students' personal lives, par-ticularly for those who are first week of August, covers married or who have small topics such as "The Political

> hai, where they are intro- lows a student to complete Management of Organiza- ates," says Pippa Goodman, duced to the Chinese business the MBA over a minimum of tions" and "International public relations manager. environment and gain pract three and a maximum of Business Strategy." tical insights into the diversity eight years. If a student misses a module, he or she

> can simply choose from a learning in Britain through individuals specializing in participants get to know each number of other modules in televized courses, is also of-

other and develop close links order to complete the number fering an MBA at its Busirequired. "It means that the student's progress is not hindered by short-term deor unforeseen materials, informal study changes in circumstances,"

For students seeking sumfinancial urses, operations. The first, which The London Business
"The loss of a key mem-runs from the end of June School (LBS), which offers

The second session, which Environment for Global like to be seen as a cutting The modular program al- Business," "The Design and edge institution that innov-

> For those unable to pursue for Entrepreneurial Managea full- or part-time degree ment was established in 1996 academic year, it makes the middle years. program, such courses combine access to the latest thinking by some of the world's leading professors and lecturers with the opportunity to form new contacts and networks with a wide variety of fellow participants from around the

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Pamela Ann Smith

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phasize critical thinking and humanistic values.

**EDUCATING WORLD** 

ore than 30 schools experience of the real and colleges in Bri- world." tain now offer the international efforts to establish a common curriculum ness School. The program is and university entry credenaimed at busy managers who tial for geographically molearn through multimedia bile students. Today, its members include educational institutions in almost 100 schools with the help of more countries.

In Britain, Southbank In-London has become one of the first to offer the IBO's

Marymount aims to "teach

International Baccalaureate, girls how to learn on their which is administered by a own," adds Ms. Chamberlain, chartered foundation, the International Baccalaureate Self-motivated throughout Crganization (IBO), based in their lives. "This is the real Geneva. Founded in the core of the courses," she says, 1960s, the IBO grew out of adding that "it's changed the way I teach."

schools in Britain, such as Swansea College in Wales, Maidstone Grammar School in Kent, Malvern College in Worcestershire and Ullswater Community College in Cumbria, offer the IBO's Di-



for pupils aged from 3 to 12 ploma Program for students years. Launched in Septem- in the final two years of secber at the start of the current ondary school and/or the and seeks to create condi- IBO the only private orgations conducive to the start- nization in the world to offer from kindergarten through

culture in general, both in the the pre-university years. Founded in 1979, South-UK and in Europe. More than 500 course places were bank serves children of all nationalities up to age 18, with pass rates well above offered and filled in the aca-On average, 70 per cent of students for LBS programs School Diploma at its Kensington campus, as well as art London International Gallery of Children's Art.

Marymount International School, a girls' school based maths, with areas of interac- cal and world affairs. tion that provide interdiscip-linary links," explains Helen Chamberlain, curriculum co-"who values the shared huordinator. "Whether it's the environment, community ser-

vice, health or social educa-

Grants from the Ford Foundation, the Twentieth Century up of new businesses, while an international curriculum Fund and others have helped the IBO to develop a balanced, advanced curriculum that embraces institutions onerating within a variety of national systems. The IBO also assesses the courses offered international standards. In ad- by its participating institutions dition, it provides a U.S. High and provides teacher training and information seminars, electronic networking and: shows, science fairs and the other educational services, as well as fostering program de-

velopment.

IB schools also pride themselves on combining inin Kingston-upon-Thames in tellectual rigor and high aca-: Surrey, offers the IBO's demic standards with a Middle Years Program for strong emphasis on teaching students from 11 to 15 years their students the ideals of of age and will be adding the international understanding final year, for students aged and responsible citizenship. up to 16, in the next academic The desired aim is to create a year. The school seeks to "co-student who is a critical and ordinate content areas, such as compassionate thinker and bistory, geography, science or an informed participant in lo-

"who values the shared humanity that binds all people together while respecting the variety of cultures and attition, we provide girls with tudes that makes for the richness of life.

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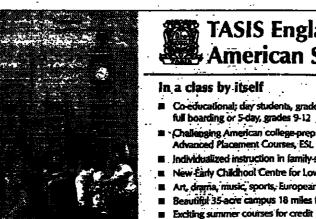
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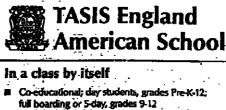
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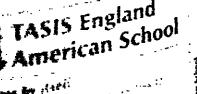
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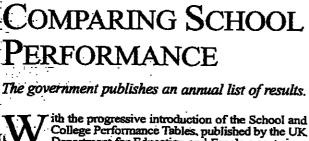
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ith the progressive introduction of the School and College Performance Tables, published by the UK Department for Education and Employment since mid-1990s, potential consumers of British education have gained an increasingly reliable guide to the quality of what is on offer. Although statistics don't tell you everything about a school, the tables give a very precise account of exam results achieved by the various institutions listed in them.

It used to be extremely difficult to compare the relative performance of private schools with those in the state sector, but now it is easy. While it is generally true that the better, usually more selective, private schools outperform their counterparts that are wholly dependent on public funds, there are some surprises to be found in the columns of figures.

The scores from the tables referred to in this article indicate how well students have performed in their British Advanced Level examinations. Usually they take two or three of these A-levels to prepare them for university admission. The average national score for all schools is 18.6. But this figure is skewed artificially high because many top-performing institutions have relatively small student bodies, whereas those tending to do less well have larger enroument. So are national average student score is appreciably lower, probably among 15 noints, but is still adequate to win a place at a less those tending to do less well have larger enrollment. So the prestigious British university.

For instance, a very popular fee-charging school in the fashionable center of London is the Lycée Français Charles de Gaulle, which boasts students from those aged 13-19: The French section It offers two routes for those aged 13-19: The French examinations. It offers two routes for those ages 13-17. It offers two routes for those ages 13-17. It offers two routes for those ages 13-17. It is has lessons in that language leading to French examinations, has lessons in that language leading to French examinations, while the smaller British section is taught in English and takes British exams.

A year's tuition fee for a senior student in the British section is about \$6,000, but it is only \$3,800 for the French. The school claims that the French option is overwhelmingly favored by foreign diplomats for their children. The league tables reveal that the school scores 18.8 points for those taking two or more subjects at British Advanced Level.

For those considering the state sector, one of the best schools is Carnden School for Girls, which manages a score of 18.0, only marginally below that of the Lycée Français: Also in the publicly funded sphere is Pimlico School, with a score of 18.2, an especially good result for a school that takes boys and girls from the age of 11 without any form of

academic selection whatsoever. Both of these state schools are located in the central

> The American School in London is another highly popular For more information: choice among the international community, but because it DfEE Publications prepares its student only for U.S. examinations, its results Tel.: (UK): 0845 60 222 60 cannot appear in the comparative tables.

If children can attend schools outside the capital city, there Web site: www.open.gov.uk/dfee/perform.htm



are some tuition-free institutions that achieve outstanding results in the university entrance exams at Advanced Level. Among those that teach A-levels for university entrance, Hills Road in Cambridge scores 28.4, while Greenhead in outstrips the bulk of fee-charging schools.

Some parents want their children to board at school, either on week days only, or for whole terms lasting about three Open University, says Heathmonths. In these instances, fees will inevitably have to be paid, but there are schools, called grant-maintained institutions, that don't charge for tuition, but do for boarding. Cranbrook School in Kent, about 50 miles from London, falls into this category.

Boarding for a whole year costs about \$8,700, a relative bargain compared with private schools, which would charge around \$20,000. Cranbrook scores 20.7 on the Advanced Level points system and admits both day and boarding whom are from Europe and campuses in Atlanta and Los mend that they develop their Schools and Colleges in the

If you are considering a British school for your son or daughter, a glance at the annual School and Performance

where the student intends to attend university, which may well limit choice. Only a few institutions in Britain offer U.S. or French exams.

Graham Wade

spective MBA students. Ex-

Kaplan also

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Huddersfield manages 24.9. Performance at these levels

Tables could well pay dividends. A major consideration that must be taken into account is

"People choose us be- experts will always recom-cause, while they like the mend that students who want

tems, not all parents want United States, the independtheir students to go to the ent institutions in London Independent institutions United States," notes Ms. like Richmond, the Amer- Sacco. "Students who are ican University in London comfortable in a mixed enand the American College, vironment or who plan to work internationally, espewide variety of students from cially in business, can learn about other cultures" at cut.

Richmond, she adds. Broad cultural experience American universities, in turn, such as Boston Uni- the Marylebone area of cen- Ms. Hightower, "We recom- England versity and Florida State Uni- tral London, offers two-year versity, offer students from Associate of Arts and four-the United States the oppor- year Bachelor of Applied tunity to spend a term or a Arts degrees in a number of whole year sampling the de- specializations, including lights of higher education in fashion design and merchan-Britain, as well as the opdising, business administraportunity to mix with a wide tion, commercial arts and inrange of fellow students in a terior design. In addition,

universities is a grow-

also in London, cater to a

ing business in Britain.

around the world.

Richmond offers 17 dif- a Bachelor of Business Adferent majors and has the administration or a graduatevantage that its BA and BS level MBA degree. degrees are combined with accreditation by Britain's own enrolled this year, from some 100 countries, including 20 er Sacco, director of marketpercent from the United States and 20 percent from ing. In addition, it offers a visiting program in Florence, Britain. Italy, for students who want to

specialize in art history. American College offers stu-This academic year, the dents the opportunity to university has students from study solely in Britain or to 105 countries, 26 percent of divide their studies between 22 percent from Asia. Hous- Angeles in the United States. ing in residential units is or in Dubai in the United provided for 600 students at Arab Emirates, reports Bill either the campus in Rich-French, senior vice president. mond, just west of the capital. All four campuses provide or at the Kensington site in the same degrees, and the central London. same courses, he says.

Students generally spend their first two years in Rich-will also be offering an MA mond and their last two years in Kensington, which also nology at its London campus. provides a curriculum leading to the MA and Master of campus in Atlanta and its af-Business Administration de- filiates in Canada.

Heather Hightower, the North European Representative for the advisory service

University Degrees, American Style

"We have a lot of clients The American College, coming out of Switzerland or whose campus is located in continental Europe," says

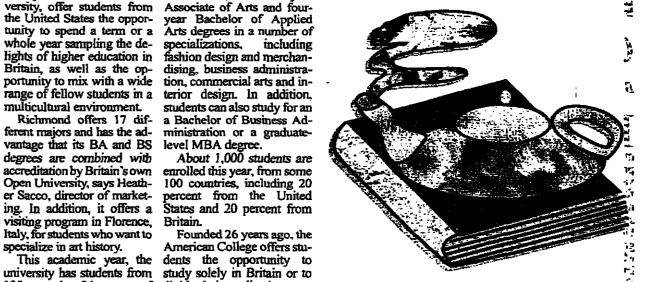
Educational Futures, based

in New Canaan, Connecti-

Providing degrees ac- American system, with its to excel in an American uniternational academic envirceptable to American flexibility and modular sys- versity should study in the onment.

Younger students seeking to

prepare for entry into an American university are also drawn to London, where the TASIS group of international schools provides both day and boarding places for pu-pils at all levels from the age of seven and up. TASIS Eng land is accredited by the New England Association of Association



ican environment in London" before applying for acceptance at the top universities in the United States, where, she feels, the climate "is more competit-

Next January, the college ive." For students from Asia degree in Information Techand Africa, as well as This is already available at its taining the best of both Although some academic tion and experience in an in-

language skills in an Amer- United States as well as by the European Council of International Schools.

TASIS England is located on a 35-acre campus are Thorpe, Surrey. Linked to The American School in Switzerland and the TASISE Hellenic School in Greeces the three institutions aim to Europe, such advice is vital if instill international under they are to succeed in ob- standing and individual reul sponsibility in their culturally? worlds: an American educa- diverse student population. 💯

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shops and seminars to help the prospective student fill out application forms and the prepare for admissions tests to prospective. prepare for admissions tests colleges and universities.

The University of London tunder Careers Service (ULCS), in collaboration with the Association of MBAs in the UK, holds an annual fair every bolds an annual fair every quality and attractiveness of the campus and the opportance should be in time different countries, for work during and after

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mchiding Britain, and 3,000 graduation.

students, including many Executives from national hibitors included 70 different from Europe and North and international companies business schools from Bri-America, attended the two- are also due to be on hand at tain, the United States and ULCS, which is one of the recruitment advice for stu- provides preparatory courses largest graduate recruitment dents interested in any of the for the Graduate Manage-

services in Europe, also organizes three other major reeach year, all of which include representatives from business schools in Britain. The Paris-based company Edition XII holds its MBA

Tour of European Capitals every year. The London event, which is scheduled for Nov. 9, will include sections devoted to MBA schools, business and workshops. More than 100 of the best MBA programs from instivice on how to choose a America, Asia and Australia, school or course of study by tutions in North and South as well as Britain and Europe, are expected to be represented. It will be held at

and also offer opportunities dents, such the professionalism of the professionalism of the professors, the school's relationship to the professors alism of the professors, the school's relationship to the professors alism of the professors. businesses and corporations. the range and importance of the school's alumni in the current business world, the

5 to 9 students per group

Executives from national hibitors included 70 different the London event to provide Europe.

various MBA specializations. ment Admissions The Britain-based affiliate which is required by most of is also planning to hold an schools and universities. MBA fair in London in Some 500 to 600 students November. Its last event, enroll in the courses each held at the Lord's Cricket year in Britain alone, says Ground in November, was Keith Russell of Kaplan.

cruitment and education fairs of the U.S. company Kaplan the world's leading business attended by some 4,000 pro-PRE-MEDICINE

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#### Games Break Even

**OLYMPICS** Even though expenses far exceeded initial estimates, the Nagano Winter Olympics appear to have generated enough revenue to offset the costs,

an official said Wednesday.
"We expect to break even and avoid any red ink," said Hidehiko Arai, a Nagano prefectural official. He said operating expenses for the Feb. 7-22 competition were expected to reach \$843.4 million, well above the initial estimate of \$591

million made when Nagano was selected in 1991.
The added costs are expected to be offset by strong ticket sales and higher-than-expected revenue from sponsorship contracts set in dollars, thanks to the recent weakening of

the Japanese yen, Arai said. The preliminary figures show that the Olympics cost a total of about \$4.4 billion, including spending on construction projects. (AP)

#### Australia in a Spin

CRICKET Javagal Srinath, an Indian fast bowler, and spin bowlers Sarauv Ganguly and Anil Kumble all took three wickets as India dismissed Australia for 233 on the opening day of their second test in Calcutta. Steve Waugh was top

scorer for Australia with 80. Yousaf Youhana and Moin Khan shared a stand of 110 either side of tea Wednesday to ensure that Pakistan drew the first test against Zimbabwe in Bulawayo. Pakistan, which needed to score 368 to win, finished on 258 for six wickets. (Reuters)

#### Pirates Plan Stadium

BASEBALL The Pittsburgh Pirates are planning a 38,000-seat ballpark with enough charm, they

hope, to tempt fans to buy tickets.

Probably most importantly, it's going to be all grass," said Cam Bonifay, the club's general man-

The team and local government leaders hope to build the still-unfunded ballpark in time for Opening Day 2001. If various government bodies approve, the park's \$228 million cost would be raised through bond issues, federal and state grants and private invest-

The team currently plays in Three Rivers Stadium, a multipurpose stadium that fans say is a poor venue for baseball because spectators sit as far as 132 feet from the

#### Oilers Could Stay Put

ICE HOCKEY The bank handling the sale of the Edmonton Oilers said Wednesday that it had accepted a \$70 million bid from the group of local investors to buy the National Hockey League club.

If the bid from the 17-member local group had been rejected, an \$82.5 million offer by Les Alexander, a Texan, would have gone through. Alexander had said he would move the team to the United (Reuters)

# World Roundup Inter Milan Avenges Bitter Loss to Schalke

## Reigning UEFA Cup Champion Bows Out

LONDON - Inter Milan avenged its defeat by Schalke 04 in last season's UEFA Cup final by knocking the German team out of this season's com-

Inter held Schalke to a 1-1 draw after extra time in their quarterfinal second leg in Gelsenkirchen on Tuesday night to advance, 2-1, on aggregate.

Michael Goossens scored a spectac-nlar goal for Schalke in the 90th minute

#### EUROPEAN SOCCER

of regular time to level the score and force extra time. But Schalke's troops barely had time

to congratulate themselves before Taribo West put Inter back in the lead with a header in the second minute of the extra period.

Meanwhile, Lazio of Rome effectively settled matters with Auxerre in the first 13 minutes on Tuesday night on goals by Roberto Mancini, who scored with a seventh-minute penalty, and Guerino Gottardi, who tallied six

An Auxerre striker, Stephane Guivarc'h, scored twice to give his team a 2-2 home draw, but the French club lost on aggregate, 3-2.

In Birmingham, Jose Luis Caminero pounced on a mistake by Mark Bosnich, the Aston Villa goalkeeper, to score for Atletico Madrid in the 29th minute to give the Spanish team a 2-0 overall lead. But Villa revived in the second half with two goals in two minutes. Ian Taylor scored the first in the 72d minute and Stan Colleymore, a second-half substitute, added the second with a powerful curling shot from outside the penalty

Villa created several more opportunities but could not score again. With the final aggregate score at 2-2, Atletico advanced because it scored an away goal.

In Moscow, Alexander Shirko scored in the 85th minute to give Spartak a 1-0 victory in the match and a 4-1 victory over the two legs of its quarterfinal against Ajax Amsterdam.

ENGLAND Arsenal and First Division Sheffield United reached the semifinals of the F.A. Cup on Tuesday, winning quarterfinal replays that were settled only after extra time and penalty

Arsenal beat West Ham, 4-3, on peu-alties after a 1-1 draw, and Sheffield won, 3-1, on penalties against Coventry of the Premier League, also after a 1-1 draw. Arsenal was reduced to 10 men after only 33 minutes. Dennis Bergkamp el-

bowed the West Ham captain, Steve Lomas, in the face and was shown the red card. Bergkamp will be banned for three matches

Despite being a man down, Arsenal took the lead with a goal by Nicolas Anelka at the end of the first half. John Hartson then leveled for West Ham in the second half.

In the penalty shootout, both teams missed two of their first five shots and sudden-death penalties were required. The Arsenal captain, Tony Adams, scored, but Samassi Abou of West Ham hit the post to send Arsenal into the

In Sheffield, Coventry took the lead through a Paul Telfer goal after 10 minutes. As fans started leaving the ground in the final minute, David Holdsworth equalized to give Sheffield United a chance. Alan Kelly, the United goalie, saved three Coventry penalties to put the first-division club through.

# Directors' Apology Fails To Calm Newcastle Fans

Freddy Shepherd and Douglas Hall, two directors of Newcastle United of the English Premier League, apologized Wednesday for derogatory remarks that provoked a storm of protest from fans. The board of the club said in response

it would take no action against the two directors "at this time." But the apology did nothing to appease angry fans who repeated calls for the two men to resign. Reports in last Sunday's News of the

World tabloid alleged that Shepherd and Hall son of the former club chairman Sir John Hall, had ridiculed Newcastle fans over the price of replica shirts and described the city's women as "dogs." In the furor that followed, the club's

stock market value fell £17 million (\$28.4 million) before recovering Shepherd and Hall said in a joint

statement they were considering legal action against the News of the World for the way in which it "dishonestly" had set up a meeting with the pair and recorded their remarks. Their statement said they sincerely

apologized for any offense given and said the remarks attributed to them were out of character. But it stopped short of a denial of the comments, and fans said it was not enough.

'It is an apology, not a denial," said John Regan, secretary of the Newcastle Independent Supporters' Association. 'From their statement we can only assume all the revelations are true and they are not fit to run the club.

Shepherd and Hall were alleged to have told the News of the World that the club's replica shirts were made in Asia for £5 and sold to fans for up to eight times that price — a claim rejected by the German sportswear manufacturer Adidas, which supplies them.

Supporters were also upset that Hall and Shepherd had allegedly ridiculed the star striker Alan Shearer and the former manager, Kevin Keegan.

Media reports suggested that New-castle fans planned to hurl their replica shirts onto the field when Newcastle played host to Crystal Palace in an English Premier League game Wednesday



TOP DOGS — Jeff King racing to the finish of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race with Ellen, his 6-year-old daughter, on the sled. King completed the 1,100-mile race from Anchorage to Nome, Alaska, on Tuesday in 9 days 5 hours 52 minutes to win \$51,000 and a pickup truck. It was King's third victory in the race. DeeDee Jonrowe, who has competed in 16 Iditarods without winning, was second, 2 hours 57 minutes behind.

# Prix Officials to Bar 'Team' Driving

PARIS — Motor racing's ruling body Wednesday took steps to prevent Grand Prix teams from controlling the finishing positions of their drivers through team orders. The International Automobile Federation, FIA, said "any act prejudicial to the interests of any competition" should in future be penalized severely by race stewards.

Race organizers in Australia were angered when David Coulthard, a

Norm Maracle's first NHL start began badly, but it had a terrific finish.

Maracle, who found out just 20

minutes before the opening face-off that he would start in goal for Detroit, made 28 saves as the Red Wings beat the

Edmonton Oilers, 4-3, on Tuesday night

in Detroit. He allowed three power-play

goals as the Stanley Cup champions fell

behind, 3-1. But they rallied, and Maracle, 23, who was called up from the

minors last week to replace the injured

"They already had two goals and a

Maracle said. "I wasn't thinking about

backup Kevin Hodson, held firm.

McLaren driver, pulled over to allow teammate Mika Hakkinen to win the season's opening Formula One race.

FIA also said the French Grand Prix would go ahead this season. The race, which is scheduled for June 28 at Magny Cours, had been dropped from the 1998 world championship calendar because of a dispute over broadcasting rights. The French Parliament had paved the way for the race be reinstated with a bill passed in January.

Red Wings Win With Greenhorn Goalie

Steve Yzerman's third-period goal drew Detroit into a 3-3 tie. It was the 557th goal of his career, moving him

past Johnny Bucyk for 13th place on the

NHL list. Darren McCarty scored the

Verbeek scored a disputed goal that

resulted in the early ejection of the Los

NHL ROUNDUP

Angeles coach, Larry Robinson, and

time as a head coach after Verbeek

opened the scoring at 7:44 of the first

Robinson was ejected for the first

scored again in the third period.

Canucks 4, Panth

Stars 4, Kings 3 In Los Ângeles, Pat

game-winner 8:36 into the period.

The FIA wanted to protect its exclusive contracts with broadcasters and objected to a French law saying that media were allowed wide access to sports events. The new French bill allows organizers of a sports event to sell broadcasting rights to a given organization but also compels them to authorize other media to use freely brief excerpts from the event. The French Grand Prix is the oldest in

the calendar, dating back to 1906.

the Vancouver goalie, Garth Snow.

the other two Canucks goals.

goal, and that killed the Sabres.

last 12 games.

# int held off visiting

ASEBALL

Brad May scored with 1:29 remaining to win the game. The Canucks then added an empty-netter by Donald Brashear with 32.8 left. Peter Zezel scored Zezel, who entered the game with two goals in 17 games, doubled his season output. Pavel Bure, the fifth leading

scorer in the NHL, got two assists. Bure has seven goals and seven assists in his Blackhawks 5, Sabres 3 In Buffalo. Dominik Hasek had an ordinary night in

ASKETBALL Hasek allowed third-period goals to BA STANDINGS

WISTHE MENACE

has 13 goals in two games.
"I didn't feel bad about this game," Hasek said. "I feel like they could have done more. I was lucky.

Ethan Moreau, Alexei Zhamnov and

#### couple of more power plays and I said, Oh no, I don't want to give up four or five right away,' 'Maracle said. Greg Johnson before Eric Daze scored period on a delayed penalty. Robinson claimed the Kings' goalie. Stephane Fiset, had controlled the puck before Maracle was guarding the net beinto an empty net. Tony Amonte scored cause Chris Osgood pulled a groin in the first period for Chicago, which muscle during warmups. "I think it's better that way, Verbeek put it in.

Florida lost a franchise-record 10th

straight game despite firing 43 shots at

ers 2 In Miami,

#### **CROSSWORD**

10 Femme -

7 He loved Lucy

a Words mouthed to a TV camera

11 It's on public file

12 See 24-Across

13 Big showcase

23 Nissan model

27 Russian river

28 Farmland

31 Soat

34 Charger

36 Two-track

29 Handshake

33 Author Tom o

38 Bring down the

25 School starters?

18 Verdì opera

**ACROSS** Socked away s Nickname in magazine publishing

11 Live longer 28 Cry in 14 Drive back and

16 Abbr. on highway overpasses 17 School phrase

19 Dadaist Jean

20 Auto pioneer

30 Mare fare 32 Pays for more 35 Kind of call 37 Gumbo

24 With 12-Down

a "Tootsie

39 Take a turn around the track, maybe 40 Rapids transit 41 10 out of 10 42 Character

Solution to Puzzle of March 18

43 To be, for students of 17-Across 22 Texas leaguer? 44 City WSW of 45 Faux pas 46 Sudden

26 Magic charm 48 Porgy's wo 50 Cincy player 51 "Bonanza"

**59** Slip ---- (елт) 62 --- turning 63 1981 Ross Richie #1 hit es Word before 67 Poet Hughes

53 Relaxation

55 Congratula

68 Hot and dry 69 Fun house one 70 It's a mess 71 Silly talk DOWN

1 Healing sign 2 Heavy reading? a Long time metaphor 4 Sun block? s Be busy, as a

pee e And others

41 Mrs. Victor 45 Govt proper OVETSEE 47 Tellies 49 Go up and down 52 Pop

54 Bar creation 55 Send to the 56 Young legacy! 58 Try

60 Roundish

O New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz

64 Bring in 65 --- Na Na Continued from Page 1

archives of the defunct East Germany to determine whether its Communist leadership ordered drug use on a massive scale to bolster ath- man Democratic Republic letic prestige and harvest a decided on an all-out cambounty of Olympic gold

Despite abundant evidence of doping in their sports programs, East Germans have letes, mainly swimmers, been reluctant to condemn the because their Olympic athletic record remains one of the few accomplishments that evokes genuine pride in their defunct society. Until recently, few athletes have been willing to step forward and condemn the coaches and trainers who gave them steroids, often without their knowledge and

After years of maintaining a discreet silence, East German athletes have started to complain about serious physical side effects, including lung, liver and kidney ailments. German authorities report that hundreds of women say they acquired deep voices some men say they grew breasts that had to be sur-

gically removed. The security files indicate the drug program was estab-lished in 1969, when the Gerpaign to humiliate West Gerat the many Munich Olympics in 1972.

As many as 10,000 athweight lifters and track and field performers, are believed to have taken steroids under the program. During the 1970s, East

Germany's extraordinary prowess in swimming and track and field events astounded the athletic world, but also spawned rumors about rampant drug-taking because of the masculine features shown by many female stars.

The small country of 17 million evolved into a feisty Olympic rival for the United East Germany's female to youths under 18. An earlier swimmers captured 11 of 13 case against five former gold medals at both the 1976 and 1980 Olympics.



The swimmer Franziska van Almsick in 1995 with Dieter Lindemann, who is one of the coaches on trial

cused of giving steroids to minors as young as 10. The law does not probibit doping; it only forbids administering swimming coaches was

what they were taking.

German prosecutors say they are examining evidence against nearly 700 other cians who toiled for the East German sports machine. They hope to conclude their

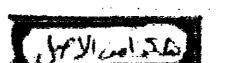
States and the Soviet Union: drugs that cause bodily harm coaches, doctors-and physidropped when the athletes work before a statute of lim-The trial that opened Wed- were shown to have been itations set by Parliament or excessive body hair, while nesday involves officials ac- adults who were aware of runs out in October 2000.

Football - European Cup Winners' Cup 1/4 Finals

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#### **SPORTS**

# **Bulls Win** Despite **Punchless** Reserves

The Associated Press Who needs reserves when

you have Michael Jordan? The Chicago Bulls didn't get a single point, rebound or assist from a backup player on Tuesday night, but it didn't matter. Jordan scored 35 points, made a big steal with 29 seconds left and hit two

#### NBA ROUNDUP

clinching free throws as the Bulls beat the Pacers in Indiana, 90-84, in a showdown between Eastern powers.

The five Chicago subs contributed nothing except three turnovers and five fouls. "I don't think I've ever

seen that," Jordan said.
"There's a first time for everything. They're laughing about it now. It's good, because they know the next game they can at least be better than this game."

Indiana's outscored Chicago's subs, 32-0, but the Bulls still increased their lead over the Pacers to 3½ games in the Central Division.

All five Chicago starters Orlando. After being fired played at least 39 minutes, last year, Hill was hired by the and Dennis Rodman, who grabbed 19 rebounds, played the entire 48 minutes.

Nuggets 90, Wizards 89 Atithony Goldwire sank a 3-

Mookie Blaylock had a tripledouble and Tyrone Corbin led a 3-point barrage with 20

New York held off visiting wankee.



The Pacers' Jalen Rose looking to the basket as Scottie Pippen of the Bulls rises up to defend from behind.

Philadelphia after nearly blowing a 22-point lead. Magic 99, Grizzlies 92 Nick Anderson had 21 points and 12 rebounds as the Magic spoiled the return of their former coach, Brian Hill, to

Grizzlies. Suns 107, Kings 80 Antonio McDyess had 19 points and Rex Chapman scored 12 of his 17 in the third period as pointer with 7.2 seconds left Phoenix won its fifth straight. as visiting Denver rallied for Cliff Robinson finished with its third victory in four 18 points for the host Suns, who gave Coach Danny Ainge a victory on his 39th

birthday. Clyde Drexler, rumored to be points as Atlanta won at retiring at the end of the sea-Toronto. son to coach his alma mater, Kricks 100, 76ers 96 Allan the University of Houston, Houston scored 31 points, got 15 points and nine assists Larry Johnson had 26 and as the host Rockets beat Mil-

Michael Finley scored four of his 16 points over the final 50 seconds as Dallas extended Boston's losing streak to five games. Finley's 18-foot jumper with 46 seconds left gave Dallas the lead for good, 95-93, and he added two free throws down the stretch. The visiting Celtics were led by Antoine Walker's 23 points.

Cavaliers 96, Trait Blazers a2 Vitali Potapenko tied his season high with 18 points as Cleveland snapped a six-game road losing streak. Shawn Kemp and Brevin Knight each scored 20 for the Cavs. Clippers 107, Warriors 102 Rodney Rogers scored 30

points, including a go-ahead 3-pointer with 20 seconds remaining, to give Los Angeles a victory at Golden State. The Clippers (15-50) have won five straight over the Warriors (14-51).

# Now Pitching Against Murdoch: Turner

By Murray Chass New York Times Service

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida -Ted Turner, whose intense dislike for his rival Rupert Murdoch has prompted him to compare Murdoch to "the late Fuhrer," plans to make a rare appearance at a baseball owners meeting Thursday to try to block Murdoch's \$311 million purchase of the Los Angeles Dodgers.

As owner of the Atlanta Braves, Turner last attended an owners meeting nine years ago. But he evidently views his attendance at the meeting as so important that he will miss a meeting of the Time Warner board of directors to be here. He is deputy chairman of Time Warner.

"He's going to try to keep Rupert out; that's why he's going," a lawyer more recently some of the opposition familiar with Turner's plans said Wednesday.

A baseball official said, "I think

that's a fair assumption." Another of-ficial confirmed Turner's intentions. The sale needs approval from 12 of the 16 National League owners and 8 of the 14 American League owners. Turner, who has engaged in a long-running fend with his rival media mogul, has only one vote, but several officials and owners said the issue

could be so close and controversial that other owners could be swayed by an impassioned speech against Mur-doch. Turner can speak passionately. Adrianne Proeller, Turner's

spokesman, said he was not available for comment. Jerry McMorris, owner of the Colorado Rockies, said he had heard that the vote on the Murdoch purchase would be close.

Another owner said he thought the sale would ultimately be approved, but he added, "I hear it's going to be tough."

The sale of the Dodgers to the Fox Group, one of Murdoch's companies, was on the agenda for the joint meeting of the two leagues Thursday at the Renaissance Vinoy Resort here. Although the sale had at one time been thought to be in possible jeopardy, seemed to dissipate and there appeared to be no chance that opponents could muster the five National League votes necessary to scuttle the transaction. But Turner obviously

does not give up easily.

The San Diego Padres have been the most outspoken opponents of the deal. Turner has not said anything publicly, but his dislike of Murdoch was viewed as enough of a reason for

ownership of the Braves. They are a American League. Several owners channel's access to Time Warner's

cable system in New York City. Corporate executives who followed the fight and the subsequent peace said they thought the two entities had too much at stake in future business relationships to have Turner attempt to

be his own man. Besides comparing Murdoch to Hitler, Turner last June challenged Murdoch, a native of Australia but now an American citizen, to a boxing match in Las Vegas, Nevada, with the loser having to leave the country. He

also threatened to squish Murdoch
"like a bug."
Murdoch, for his part, has expressed his views of Turner through some of his media outlets. During Pox's telecast of the 1996 World Series, for example, cameras never picked up Tumer and his wife, Jane Fonda, in the stands during games between the Braves and the New York

A complicating factor in Turner's National League, approval of the sale position, on the other hand, is the would require a majority vote in the subsidiary of Time Warner, which and officials said that Jerry Reinsdorf reached agreement with Mirrdoch last of the Chicago White Sox has been July after a fierce fight over his news outspoken privately against Murdoch, but no one expects him to be able to produce anywhere near the seven votes he will need to block Murdoch.

■ Cuban Players Missing at Seal As one Cuban baseball player

reached the United States, a spokesblock Fox's purchase of the Dodgers. man for his agent said that four others Turner, however, is determined to and a coach trying to defect were feared missing at sea, The Associated Press reported from Miami.

The Cuban exile community in Mismi celebrated the arrival Tuesday of Orlando Hernandez, who fied the island in December and is headed to spring training with the New York Yankees. Rene Guim, a spokesman for the Cubans' agent, Joe Cubas, said that another group left Cuba on March 10 and has not been heard from

The four players — all formet members of the Cuban national team and a pitching coach left in a flimsy boat a week ago, Guim said. All five were banned from Cuban

baseball last July because authorities Besides a three-quarters vote in the suspected they planned to defect.

# Certain Justice? Clemens Applies Beanball Code

By Buster Olney New York Times Service

TAMPA, Florida. — Baseball's beanball code is almost as established as British common law, unwritten and yet completely understood. When Derek Jeter stepped into the batter's box in the fifth inning of an exhibition against Roger Clemens of Toronto, the Yankees' shortstop knew Clemens would throw a fastball at him.

In the previous half-inning, the Yankees' Hideki Irabu, tiring and gradu-ally losing control of his fastballs, bounced a pitch off the head of the Toronto shortstop Alex Gonzalez. That Gonzalez was all right meant nothing; leter knew Clemens would retaliate, and told teammates as much.

volved in four such incidents in 20 but neither in a circumstance in which spring training games. They learned he appeared to be head-hunting. Monday that Luis Sojo, their utility He spun a curveball off the ar infielder, will miss the next four Jose Canseco in the second inning weeks because of a broken hand sustained on March 2 when he fended off a fastball from Cleveland's Jaret Wright — a pitch that nearly hit Sojo was laboring. With the count three in the head, a pitch the Yankees say balls and two strikes, Gonzalez fouled

was intentional. The bad feelings generated by these incidents can linger throughout a season, said the Yankees' David Cone. "I don't anticipate anyone is going to retaliate," he said, keenly aware that his words will be monitored by the American League office. met, just above the left ear. "But I don't think anybody's going to forget about it either."

It is likely that the exchange of brushbacks Tuesday will be treated as Clemens did indeed graze Jeter's brushbacks Tuesday will be treated as a brief delay, Gonzalez told the chest with a fastball, and this probably a one-time skirmish and be forgotten. Toronto trainer, Toronto tr

He spun a curveball off the arm of to face Clemens, a pugilist pitcher if not usually the pitch of choice for brushbacks. And one out away from completing his last inning of work, he

off four pitches, three in a row on outside fastballs. Jorge Posada, the Yankees' catcher, called for an inside fastball. Irabu's elbow dropped as he delivered at 88 miles an hour, mediocre speed, but the ball rode in on Gonzalez and smashed into his hel-

Gonzalez fell, reaching for his head, with Irabu moving close to the plate to check on his condition. After

Jeter knew that he was due to hit third the next inning. He would have there is one in the American League. "I knew he was going to hit me,"

Second pitch, chest high, Clemens grazed Jeter with a fastball. With a disgusted look, Jeter flipped his bat and trotted to first base. "I don't think he was trying to hurt me," he said, believing, instead, that Clemens was trying to send a message to the Yankees.

Irabu sent his interpreter, George Rose, to the Toronto clubhouse to apologize to Gonzalez, and with Rose at his side, he checked on Jeter in the Yankees' clubhouse and apologized

for inciting Clemens.

The Rocket was hardly apologetic.
"I threw an inside fastball," he said, arms crossed tightly against his chest. Was he happy with the location of that inside fastball? "Yeah," he said,

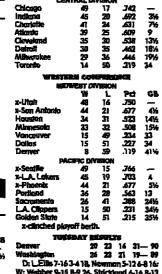
### SCOREBOARD

#### BASEBALL

EXHIBITION BASEBALL

Authence 17, Florida 6 Los Angeles 11, Korisos City 7 Fampa Bay (ss.) 2, Allarda (ss.) 0 Houston S, St. Louis 2 New York Yankees 3, Toronto 0
Philodelphio B, Atlanta (ss.) 3
Chicago White Sox 13, San Diego (ss.) 3 (Joidand (ss) 7, Chicago Cubs 3 San Diego (ss.) 15, Oakir Colorado 5, San Francis

#### BASKETBALL **NBA STANDINGS**



**PEANUTS** 

GUESS 40UR WEIGHT?

**BEETLE BAILEY** 

OKAY, I HAVE

THE ROPE, NOW

Washington 54 (Webber 10).
Assists—Deriver 20 (Alexander, Jackson 5),
Washington 21 (Strickland 10).
Altanta 22 22 23 46—117
Terunte 19 27 18 41—165
A Smith 5-12 8-11 21, Cortin 7-11 1-22b 7:
Ciristin 16-17 7-8 30, Walkres 8-15 2-7 18.
Rebounds—Allanta 65 (Multernbo 12),
Toronto 48 (Miller 7). Assists—Allanta 24
(Bloyfock 12), Terunto 27 (Christin 8).
Phillodelpide 25 26 21 28—100
P: New York 25 26 21 28—100
P: Nesson 9-27 19-16 29, Transmas 5-10 1013 22; NY: Johnson 11-17 4-526. Hosston 10 19 16-11 31. Refrotads—Philodelphia 45 (Iverson 9), New York 49 (Johnson, Cummings 10), Assists—Philodelphia 20 (Iverson, Show 6), New York 28 (Word 7). Vancouver 27 28 15 22—92 Orlande 27 31 27 29—99 V: Edwards 6-10 7-819, Roeves 8-1/1-317, Or. Anderson 7-21 6-8 21, Gront 6-10 3-4 15. Rebotads—Vancouver 54 (Revens 11), Orlando 56 (Anderson 12). Assists—Vancouver 13 (Mayberry 3), Orlando 20 (Prica 6).

# 18; D: Anstey 11-15 4-6 26, Reeves 5-6 10-11 21. Rehounds—Boston 52 (DeClercq 10), Deligs 52 (Green 9), Assists—Boston 17 (Anderson 6), Delics 25 (Finley 11), Miliusvalue 22 22 21 25—91 M.: Gilliam 6-15 8-8 20, Allen 7-17 5-6 20); H.: Maloney 6-9 2-2 19, Okalimun 8-13 2-2 18. Rehounds—Milliam 140 46 (Er. Johnson 1-0, Houston 43 (Willis 11). Assists—Milliam 140 (Willis 11). S: Richmond 7-153-319, Williamson 7-121-

S: RiChmond 7-15-3-3 19, Williamson 7-12 1-415; P: McDyess 7-95-5 19, Cliff Robinson 8-14-2-218, Rebotads—Sacrumento 38 (Owens 6), Phoenix 37 (McDyess 7). Assists—Sacrumento 21 (A.Leinson 5), Phoenix 34 N.Y. Ranger N.Y. Islande

Perfixed

22 23 28 14— 82
C. Kernp B-13 4-4 20, Knight 3-10 4-6 20, P.
Subonis B-13 4-5 20, Wallace 5-9 6-8 16, Rebeutada—Cleveland 40 (Kernp, Potopenko 7),
Poritand 45 (Sabools 10), Assista—Cleveland 22 (Sate 6), Portland 22 (Wallace 6),
L.A. Clippers

27 35 21 24—187
Gelden Strite

28 34 21 24—187
Gelden Strite
Clippers: Rogers 12-17 2-3 30, Marray 9-20
3-4 20: G.S.: Alarshoft 10-18 7-10 28,
Wastinerspoon 9-16 2-2 20, Rabotinds—Los
Angeles 42 (Rogers 12), Gelden State 62
(Compler 12), Assists—Los Angeles 27
(Rogers 7), Gelden State 24 (Bogoes 7),

# NIT ICEHOCKEY NHL Standings

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Johnson 11 (Zhamnov, Weinkizh) 6. 8-Sorkon
21 (Roy, Smehlid) 7. 8-Dones 19 (Plante,
Zhitnik) (pp). 8. C-Daze 29, (en). Shots en
godi: C. 14-11-17—C. 8- 12-6-12—30.
Godiller: C-Hackett, 8-Hosek.
Vascouver 2. 2. 2—4
Herida
1: 10 1—2
1st Period: F-Kozlov 10 (Dvorak Ciccarell)
2. V-Zezel 3 (Bertuzzi, McCabe) 3. V-, Zezel 4
(McCabe, Bere) (pp). 24 Period: None. 24
Period: F-Gagiter 17 (Sheppant, Norton) 5.
V-Moy 8 (Aucoln, Bure) 6. V-Brasheer 7.
(en). Shebs en genic Y-11-4-14—29. F-10-2211—43. Geallist: V-Snow: F-Weeks.
Edisserten
2. 1. 6—3
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CALVIN AND HOBBES

THAT'S OK.
THE COLD
AND WET
OUT.

Fetisov) (pp). 7, D. McCarty 13 (Yzerram, Lupolniu) Shots on gook E-17-8-6—31. D-12-18-16—46. Goodles: E-Essenso. D-Marocle. Dallas 2 1 1—4 Les Augeles 6 8 3—3 1st Period: D-Vertoek 21 (Wright) 2. D. Mjerrendyk 32 (Adoms, Chaphers) (pp). 26 Period: D-Lehtinen 22 (Lind, Mativichek) 34 Period: D-Lehtinen 22 (Lind, Mativichek) 36 Period: L.A.-Murray 22 (Tayphatox, Strange) 5. D-Vertoek: 22 (Controntero) 6, L.A.- Murray 23 (Mager, Stumpel) (pp). 7, L.A.-Bloke 19 (Golley, Stumpel) (pp). Shots on goot: D-8-56-18. L.A.- 6-10-21—37, Goodles: D-Belfour, L.A.-Fiset.

**UEFA CUP** 

Spartuk Moscow won 4-1 on ogg AJ Auxene 2 Lazio 2 Schalle 1, Inter Milan 1 Inter Milan wan 2-1 on aggrega Aston Villa 2. Alletica Madrid 1

Ansend won 4-3 on pendities Sheffield United 1, Coventry City 1 Sheffield United won 3-1 on pen

LIBERTADORES CUT

Match ended in draw. BODÍA YS, AUSTRALIA WEDDINGDAY IN CALCUTTAL INDIA olle: 233

TRANSITIONS 

ing to Konsos City.

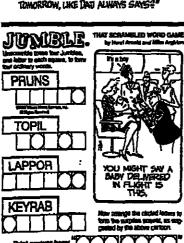
BED.

THE DOOR HAS JAMMED.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"Are you spending like there's no Tomorrow, like Dati Always says?"



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Animat: What the galandraing geologist was
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SURE.



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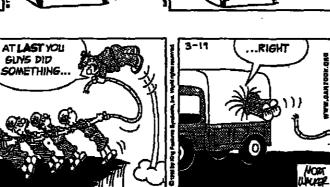












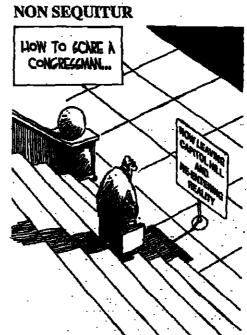










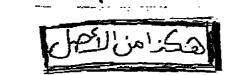












WASHINGTON — There are now 340,987 unnamed sources in Washington. Many of these, who have asked not to be quoted,

have been called out of retirement due to the alleged Clinton

sex scandal. One insider. who shall remain nameless. told me, "If it wasn't for this country's un-

Buchwald named sources there would be no Clinton scandal, Our 'not-

for-attribution' quotes are what makes this story sizzle." "How do you choose which media to leak to?"

We go with whoever calls us first. There are almost as about Gennifer Flowers. many reporters on this story as there are people who don't want to be quoted by name." The media owe you a

"We have to 'ask not what Rivera.' That quote has been attributed to John F. Kennedy

#### 3 Paintings Slashed At Museum in Dallas

The Associated Press DALLAS - Three paintings at the Dallas Museum of Art have been vandalized. After a 40-inch scratch was

discovered Tuesday on Frederic Church's "The Icebergs," the museum found a named sources will no longer scratch on Edward Hopper's "Lighthouse Hill." The third painting was "The Witches."

Mary Vernon, an art professor at the Meadows School at Southern Methodist University, said the Church and Hopper paintings were "pieces of significant Amer- against an official spokes-

by a high government official, who cannot be identified."

"As an unnamed source, aren't you afraid someone will identify you by name?"
"It's a risk. Once you are

identified you lose your credibility. Our role model is Deep Throat. To this day no one knows who he was, and yet his information broke open Watergate. Reporters dream about finding another Deep Throat in Monica Lewinsky's garage."

What I didn't know is that the unnamed sources have an organization where they exchange tidbits on various scandals. A juicy item on Linda Tripp is worth two rumors

"Does it ever bother you that an unattributed piece of gossip could bring down the States?

"Not much. You cannot our country can do for us, but have a free press unless you what we can do for Geraldo permit people to talk off the permit people to talk off the record. Undisclosed sources are always the best ones, particularly when the reporter is on deadline. I have had anchormen call me up just before they go on the air to confirm something they heard from another unidentified source.

"Do you say it's true?" "I have to, because that person might be called to find out if what I leaked had any

validity. "You do see a light at the end of the tunnel when unhave status in the United

Not as long as there is a national sex scandal. People don't give a darn about Iraq, but when it comes to official hanky-panky, they'll take the unnamed source's word man's every time.

# The Voyeuristic Pleasures of 'Primary Colors'

By Todd S. Purdum New York Times Service

L OS ANGELES — From the opening shot of "Primary Colors," in which the camera pans slowly from a beefy politician's hand to what turns out to be John Travolta's full face - half smiling, half pouting in an unmistakable mix under silver-gray hair there is no doubt about just whose handshake, face and flaws this movie is meant to

There is even less doubt halfway through the film when a young aide to Governor Jack Stanton, the prodigal Southern presidential candidate whom Travolta plays, confronts the governor alone in a men's room and tells him that a black teenager in his home state claims she's about to have his baby. Stanton slams the wall in a wave of self-pity and wails, "I just can't catch a break, can I?"

The voyeuristic thrill of that moment, in which the perfect pitch of an imagined incident utterly trumps the truth of the nightly news, will be part of the guilty pleasure of this "Primary Colors" after it opens Friday in the United States, just as it was when Joe Klein's novel began life two years ago as an anonymously published parlor game.

But whatever the film critics end up saying about the artistic merits of the movie. directed by Mike Nichols from a screenplay by Elaine May, the story it tells is, on the big screen, inevitably larger and more powerful than it was in the book.

In the first weeks of the post-Monica Lewinsky era of American politics, "Primary Colors" the movie suddenly seems no longer just an attempt at a sophisticated political comedy-drama but a celluloid Rosetta Stone to help decipher prevailing notions of private behavior and public morality — a way to laugh at ourselves

and our folly, and to cry.

"It's where we are," said Nichols, the director of such path-breaking social commentaries as "Who's Afraid of Virginia to be cocky about the put Woolf?" (1966), "The Graduate" (1967) and "Carnal Knowledge" (1971). "It's about us more than them. It's not about Clinton, but about the 'Clinton thing.' It's about our process, and where we've brought it and it's brought us. It's about the gantlet that candidates have to run. It's about scandal, and the power of scandal in this mediarun world. It's about sexuality, and its uncontrollability, and what happens when you try to control it. It's about the mystery of emphasizes the human story at the center of but all too believable to even the governor's diocre."

marriage and how no one ever knows what's going on inside a marriage.

That is a mouthful, but so is the movie which is going to feel as much like the 1992 presidential campaign to those who lived through it as D. A. Pennebaker and Chris Hegedus's 1993 documentary "The War Room" did. But even as this tale takes on new overtones of reality, the combined effect of May's and Nichols's craft and a cast that also includes Emma Thompson, Kathy Bates, Billy Bob Thornton and Larry Hagman is that the story can at last be appreciated

on something approaching its own terms.
"Primary Colors" is still a timely tweaking of people we know, but so were other dramas of leadership from the Greeks to Shakespeare, and like them it is ultimately 'kind of human and awful and sad,' as one

character in the film says.

The saga of Jack Stanton, his flinty wife, Susan, their idealistic campaign aide Henry Burton, their mad-dog consultant Richard Jemmons and their internal "dust buster," Libby Holden, closely and deliberately echo Clinton, his wife, Hillary, and their aides George Stephanopoulos, James Carville and Bersey Wright, Clinton's longtime chief of staff in Arkansas who for much of the 1992 campaign fended off what she called, in a fit of impolitic revulsion, "bimbo eruptions."

But actual events have all but outdistanced the most outlandish conceits of "Primary Colors." So much so that executives at Universal Pictures, which spent nearly \$70 million to make the movie and another \$30 million to promote it, have fretted that it may sink under the weight of yesterday's news a notion that Nichols dismisses with slv

"I don't understand what the problem is," he said. "This movie would have done well, people will say, but it was just too relevant? And people talked about it too much, and that

Still, he acknowledges, it would be foolish many was a payoff from the president to the to be cocky about the public's reception to actor, who is one of Scientology's most Still, he acknowledges, it would be foolish any such project. And television news ratings, which spiked upward in the first days of the allegations about a relationship between the president and Lewinsky, have receded again. But this movie may wind up being the perfect palate cleanser for a public weary of Kenneth Starr's stalemated morality play, a pin to prick the pundits' conflated prognost-

John Travolta and Emma Thompson in Mike Nichols's "Primary Colors." --

the Stantons' rise, and pares away some of closest aides — that Stanton has impregthe subplots and winking expository byways

of the book. There has been much hyperventilating on both coasts of the United States that the movie has somehow defanged the novel. It has been proposed that Nichols's casual ac-quaintance with the Clintons from summers on Martha's Vineyard and a 1992 fund-raiser

made him pull his punches.

It has also been suggested that Travolta's meeting with the president's national security adviser, Samuel Berger, about dis-crimination against Scientologists in Gerprominent international celebrities, for sand-film. ing down his performance.

The film's publicity representatives de-clined to make Travolta available to be interviewed for this article, but he told George magazine, "You'd have to be dead not to see that the film favors Clinton.'

Such speculation ignores several realities, chief among them the central plot device,

nated a minor and then tried to cover it up. Not exactly flattering stuff, and ample grist for Clinton haters everywhere.

one of Clinton's earliest boosters in the national press, has never completely about tional press, has never completely aban-doned his faith, despite some brutal criticism, and never conceived of his novel as

the hatchet job some saw. "Nobody is unimpeachably right in Primary Colors," said Klein, whose exploration of the moral corrosion of politics borrowed from Robert Penn Warren's 1946 novel "All the King's Men" and whose big set speeches remain essentially intact in the

There are no villains in it," he continued. "To a very great extent what the book became for me was a way to exorcise my frustrations with the journalistic form of having to find heroes and villains. You've got to make the choice about whether you want the guy who absolutely, legitimately cares for the people and feels he can get away with murder, or do you want someone me-



SPANISH SPICE - Papier-mâché Spice Girls in the last hours before hundreds of "fallas" were burned in

Besson stole his idea for the hit film "Leon." Franck Gerardi contends there are "blatant similarities" between his script and the screenplay for Besson's 1994 film. Gerardi's lawyers contend he wrote his script in 1990 and submitted it to a film company run by Luc Besson's father, Claude. Gerardi and his lawyers have asked a Paris court for a provisional 1 million francs (\$165,000).

that Lyon's museum of fine arts may be said the stadium wouldn't be ready till exhibiting a fake painting attributed to the end of July and they had no other Modigliani. Christian Briend, the museum's curator of 20th-century collections, said the painting was not in the descriptive catalogue of Modigliani's works. Experts raised doubts about the authenticity of the painting because of 'anatomical improbabilities' in the portrayal of the nude woman, Briend a 20-foot screen. Original members of said. Her throat, for example,

HE French director Luc Besson has said, and the depiction of the way she is rying the action from the stage will be on President Al Gore and Margaret tenced in Hillsboro, Oregon. De la Rema ser Communications. been sued by a writer who claims looking is unusual for a Modigliani. The either side of the giant screen, giving the illusion that the King and the musicians tain.

Thatcher, former prime minister of Briwas struck while visiting a mall to promote this painting will be sent for tests in Paris to illusion that the King and the musicians tain. analyze its brush-strokes.

Soccer 1, Rock 'n' Roll 0. The fledgling Paris rock festival that last year boasted David Bowie, NTM and The Prodigy has been called off. Its organizers said the festival, which was to have blasted off on July 13 and 14 at the Parc des Princes, would be scrapped because the capital's stadiums have been An imperfect body has raised fears booked for the World Cup finals. They

Elvis has not left the building. He's making a comeback more than 20 years after his death at Radio City Music Hall in New York City in a video montage on "is his band and a 16-piece orchestra will Valencia to celebrate winter's end. strangely sunk into her shoulders," he play along to the footage. Screens car-

are playing the same tune.

**PEOPLE** 

King Hussein of Jordan and his American-born wife, Queen Noor, have cream pie in November was fined \$150 been honored by the Simon Wiesenthal Center for their efforts to bring peace to the Middle East. More than 600 guests write a letter of apology to the clothing attended the awards dinner in New York.

An animal rights activist who smacked Oscar de la Renta with a tofu and ordered to do 20 hours of community service. Alison Green also must Previous award winners were U.S. Vice supervised probation. She was sen-

# The Fifth Beatle Bows Out With One Last Album

ONDON - George Martin, the record producer known as the fifth Beatle, has called it a day at 73. Partially deaf from years of studio work with countless musicians, Martin said he has decided to retire because "I don't

want to be doing things that I'm no longer good at."

Sir George, since he was knighted in 1996, said he wanted to have fun with his last album, "In My Life," which is to be released Monday, and assembled a varied crowd of stars to re-record Beatles' hits, among them Robin Williams and Sean Connery of all people. "If I am going to make a last album," he said, "I'm going to have fun. And we did. If it sells, that's a bonus."

protesting his use of fur in his clothing was the BBC's offering

The Larry Weinstein film "Solidar- aoi is Tresh, new persons ity Song: The Hanns Eisler Story! has at the agreement. Dis won the top prize at the fifth festival of sinc will spend near the won the top prize at the Hull resultant of plants, special recommendation of the Charles of the chamber music and film scores. The fest at a minute to a

Sad news from the World Wide Web: The Hillaryshair site has closed. A painstaking and elegant archive of nearly every do worn by Hillary Rod. ham Clinton, the site paid homage to her need for change and invited to browsers to vote on their favorite hairstyle. "It fell into a state of disrepair," said the site's creator, Mike Miller.

tival also awarded a special prize to Peter 3 3 3 3th 223 South Ameri Manuira for his documentary on Sir all million in Northern Eine Georg Solti, who died in September.





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world's Daily Newsp

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Mr. Hendricks said. Disc MAmerica to U.S. cable

bilavid S. Broder adjusan Schmidt

The speaker of Men Gingrich, and the chair b House Judiciary Committee and a small group of at the appropriate single

Milence assembled by the ounsel to determine if the the the committee to consider dan charges against President according to officials who and by both men. the has been set, but the they contemplated that the

steel contacts with the in-Counsel. Kenneth Starr on ad his lour-year investigation the near future. sources said Mr. Gin Hyde Republican of man of the House In thee, recognized the po-

lieved to be developing have said repeatedly pect a need for impeachs. the plan to send a intisted members to rein the independent conneen as a precautionary word surprises. Both are face intense — and Dublic pressure bonneilar said it was time for

onsider whether Mr. Chinperusal of the inbe s files by members. he planned staff contacts argely to explore when,

might consider such Saudi Arabia.

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